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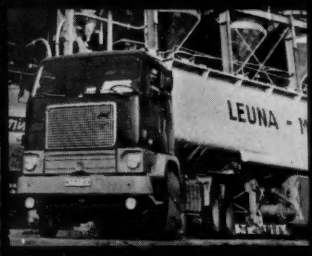

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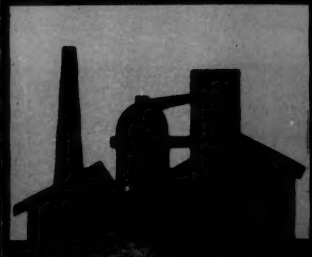

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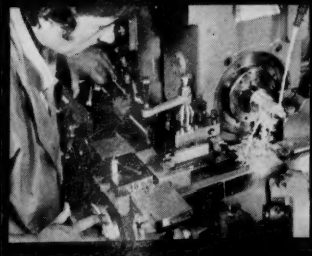

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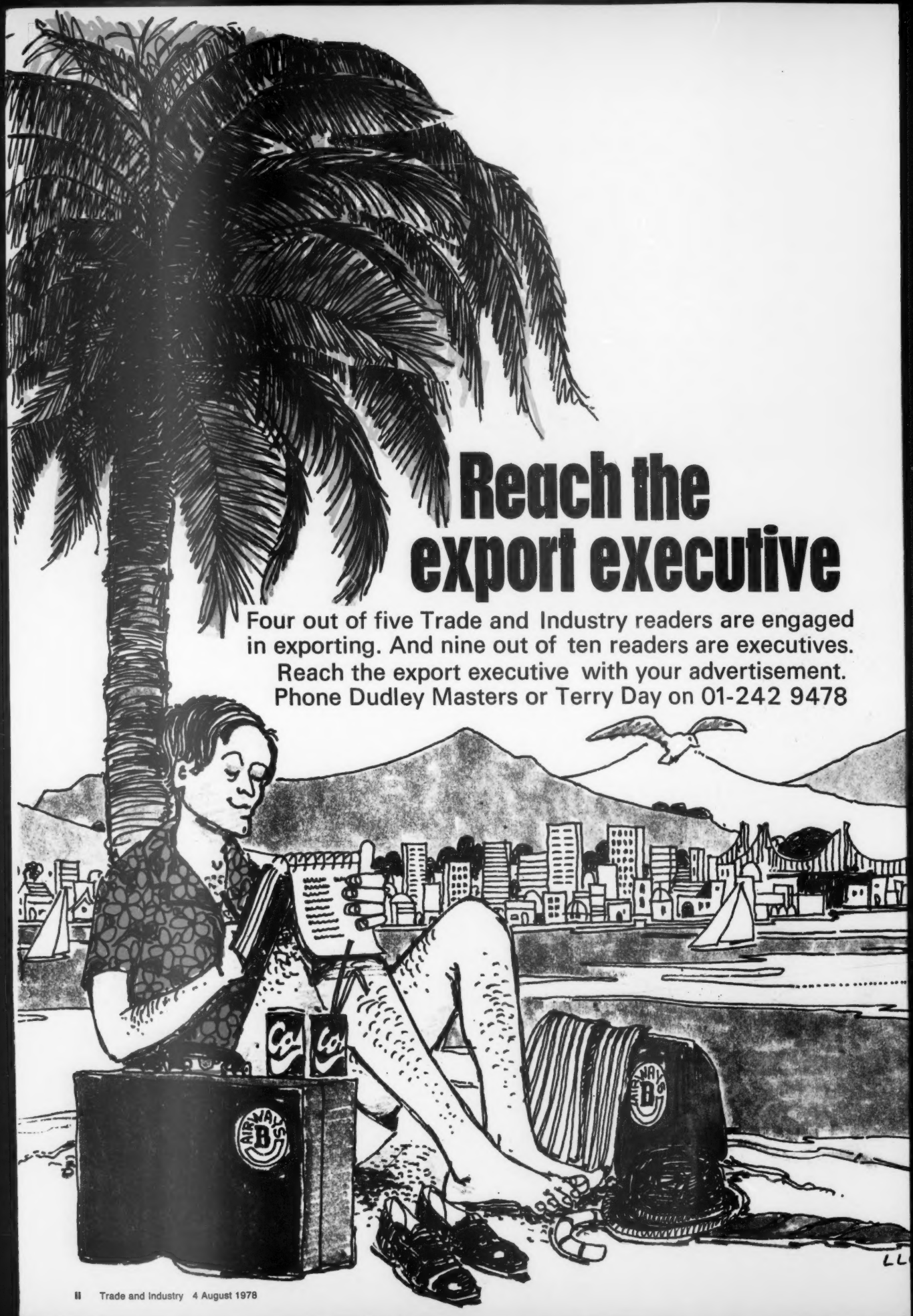
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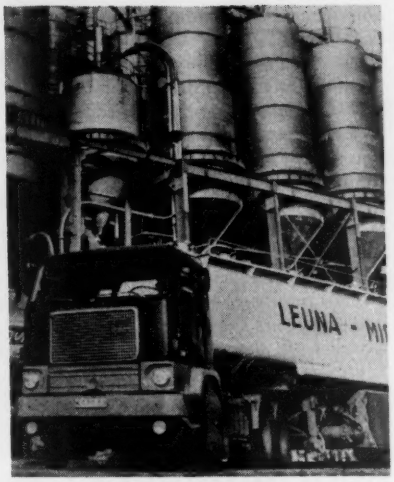

Tips for would-be exporters are given in a report on trade with German Democratic Republic (page 282).

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Trade and Industry this week

HOME

Commission agrees renewal of shipbuilding intervention fund

Agreement has been reached with the European commission for the renewal of Britain's shipbuilding intervention fund, Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, announced in a written parliamentary answer on Tuesday.

Mr Kaufman said that it had been agreed that the fund should be used for the period to 31 December provided that the British government satisfied the commission, case by case, that the assistance to be provided was appropriately degressive and no more than necessary and that the orders secured with the assistance of the fund were linked to the attainment of industrial restructuring objectives in accordance with article 6 of the fourth directive. This agreement did not prejudice the full period of application of the intervention fund, he said.

The maximum rate of aid would be 30 per cent of contract price with the possibility for the commission to approve exceptions in special cases. It would be the UK government's firm intention to keep the assistance to the minimum in each case, Mr Kaufman explained.

The fund was agreed by the commission at an annual rate of £85 million provided that the sum was required by the restructuring programme. The commission had agreed that the UK may draw on the fund up to an appropriate proportion subject to agreement with the commission in individual cases.

Mr Kaufman said that there had been a remarkable success with the first intervention fund in securing orders for British shipbuilding. Firm orders assisted by the fund totalled 57 ships.

In his discussions with Raymond Vouel, EEC commissioner for competition, there had been agreement that the objective must be to secure an industry which could compete without subsidy. British Shipbuilders, Mr Kaufman said, was taking action to that end and its action had the support of the government.

Modern managers on the move

Modern managers are more willing to change employers and to move house, if they think it will help their career, than their counterparts were 20 years ago.

This is one of the major findings of a new British Institute of Management (BIM) survey, 'the British manager: careers and mobility', published on Monday (31 July).

According to the survey, the new type of manager will be more professional, well-educated and with high aspirations. He will expect to plan and manage his own career and will thrive in a more egalitarian and flexible atmosphere, says the BIM.

The survey has found that the proportion of managers who have spent their whole career with one firm has decreased from 34 per cent in 1958 to 13 per cent, and that 37 per cent of managers had five or more employers, compared with 13 per cent in 1958. In the last 10 years, just about one-fifth of the managers surveyed had been offered a job change involving a house move and only about a quarter of them had refused to move.

Young managers, says the BIM, are likely to change employers more often than their older colleagues. Half the managers in their early thirties had worked for at least four employers in the last 10 years. But only 25 per cent of the 50-plus age group had moved this frequently.

Concern about their careers and career development was indicated by 80 per cent of managers, an even higher proportion of whom gave promotion as one of their major preoccupations.

The most important motivations for managers, says the survey, are responsibility, influence over the way things are run and challenging jobs. There is no doubt, says the BIM, that a significant proportion of managers also want a larger income and less tax.

The survey points out that young managers were more likely to enjoy taking risks, to prefer change and to feel less concerned about job security. They were also less likely to feel an obligation to the organisation they work for. All these attitudes are consistent with their propensity to change employer frequently.

Simpler price code now in force

Price control by a permanent but more flexible system came into force on Monday.

Two orders were laid before parliament completing the transition from the system of price controls under the old price codes to the more flexible permanent system of investigations and examinations of prices set up by the government under last year's price commission act.

Amendments follow from the ending of statutory profit margin controls on 31 July, as laid down in the Price Commission Act 1977. The amendments simplify certain information requirements. Changes should reduce the administrative cost of the prices legislation to both industry and the commission, without affecting the ability of the commission to perform its tasks, which remain unchanged. They also follow the Prime Minister's recent suggestions for simplifying administrative and statistical forms.

The simpler code now in force – the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) Order 1978, HMSO, 10p – will guide the commission in performing some of its functions under earlier legislation – for example, keeping certain matters under continuous review.

The Prices and Charges (Notification of Increases) Order 1978, HMSO, 40p, defines the enterprises which must notify intended price increases to the commission, submit periodic returns, or maintain suitable records. It also specifies the information that must be included in the notification, returns and records.

Furniture code to help shoppers

A code of practice for the furniture and bedding trade was launched on Tuesday to help ease shoppers' problems.

The code produced in consultation with the Office of Fair Trading, will be binding on the members of the five big trade associations, covering most furniture retailers and nearly all manufacturers in the UK. Retail members will display association symbols in their shops.

The five trade associations concerned are: Branded Furniture Society; British Furniture Manufacturers' Federated Associations; National Association of Retail Furnishers; National Bedding Federation; Scottish House Furnishers' Association.

The new code means:

- ☐ An end to 'worth £x, our price £y' in furniture and bedding advertisements by code members
- ☐ No more vague 'up to £x off' claims
- ☐ Retailers must quote realistic delivery dates, in writing if deposits are taken and delivery is likely to take over one month
- ☐ Deposits will be refunded if promised delivery dates cannot be met and the alternative dates offered to consumers are not acceptable
- ☐ A comprehensive complaints procedure has been set up in which trade associations will be ready to arrange independent testing. Low cost arbitration is also available for complaints which cannot otherwise be resolved to the customer's satisfaction
- ☐ Better information to be made available to customers (by the end of 1979) on construction, care and maintenance of furniture.

The Office of Fair Trading analysed consumers' complaints about furniture and the code has been designed to take into account their experiences. There were many complaints that furniture fell apart after little use, that upholstery coverings deteriorated quickly, that furniture arrived with scratches,

chips and tears, and that there were long delays in delivery. Some consumers had to wait a long time before action was taken on their complaints.

Welcoming the code, Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said 'A bed, a three-piece suite – or even a coffee table – are all fairly high-cost items these days and this makes the young couple setting up their first home, or the older folk renewing their furniture, naturally keen to obtain value for their money'.

Statutory reporting soon on seafaring accidents

A statutory system of maritime accident reporting is to be instituted as soon as is practicable, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, Stanley Clinton Davis, told parliament on Monday. Mr Clinton Davis was speaking about the report of the steering committee on the safety of merchant seamen at work, to be published shortly.

In addition to accident reporting, the committee proposed new regulations on access arrangements on ships and in docks, the provision and use of protective clothing and equipment, entry into tanks and enclosed spaces, guarding of machinery, testing of lifting tackle and various constructional features affecting safety.

To help to secure the objectives set out in the report, the committee had prepared a comprehensive code of safe working practices for the guidance of all serving in merchant ships. 'I urge everyone concerned to apply the code conscientiously,' said Mr Clinton Davis, 'and thus make their contribution to goal we all seek to achieve – a marked reduction in fatal and other serious accidents to seafarers.'

New Glasgow jobs project opened

To help encourage the establishment of more small businesses and create more jobs in the city, Glasgow District Council opened a new 'venture workshop' yesterday (3 August).

New ideas on show at the opening covered the reproduction of paintings, a new style of headboard, an electric car, a fish gutting machine, improved double glazing, a wide-tyred motor cycle, a collapsible caravan, and a new type of dart.

All the applications for the use of the venture workshop were chosen by a panel of advisers which analysed the proposals and decided which of them could usefully be further developed. The advisers, who will continue to meet to deal with further applications for the use of the workshop, are Professor William B. McHutchison, chairman of Strathclyde University's mechanical engineering group and professor of dynamics and control, Alistair Denholm, business development manager of the Clydesdale Bank, John McAllan, industrial marketing officer of the National Engineering Laboratory in East Kilbride, and Ron Garrick, production director of Weir Group Ltd.

About £70,000 has been allocated for the setting up and fitting out of the workshop. Another £50,000 will be used to build small production units for the ideas which prove marketable.

Boom-boom, boom-boom

Secondary sonic booms from Concorde's operations that are heard in the south-west of England and in south Wales are described and explained in a report published by the Department of Trade on Monday. Announcing its publication, Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, told parliament that experimental measures being taken to alleviate the problem would not prevent secondary sonic booms from being heard in the UK, but it is hoped that they will substantially reduce the more disturbing booms.

The report, and an interim report published in November 1977, are available from the Press Office, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1, tel. 01-215 5115.

Fewer business failures last year

Personal and business failures in 1977 fell to 4177, a decrease of 39 per cent over 1976. Estimated liabilities in these failures – £115 million – was almost the same as in 1976, despite the reduced numbers in 1977. These facts are given in 'The Bankruptcy General Annual Report for the year 1977', published by HMSO, on Tuesday, 95p.

The report, covering the first full year since monetary limits were increased under the Insolvency Act 1976 and deposits on petitions were increased, says that the estimated value of the assets in these failures was about £19 million leaving an overall estimated deficiency of some £96 million.

Of the 3078 trading bankruptcies, the principal groups affected were the construction industry (972), retailers (765), road haulage, taxis and hire cars (251), restaurants, cafés, public houses and clubs (208) and financial, business and professional services (205). The 1017 non-trading bankruptcies includes 350 directors and promoters of limited companies.

OVERSEAS

Dell leads top-level trade team to China

A team of 14 senior British businessmen, led by Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell, left London on Wednesday (2 August) for a week's visit to China.

Mr Dell, who is the first senior UK trade minister to visit China for five years, is spending three days in Hong Kong before going on to Peking.

The visit will aim to develop further the close relationship between the UK and China, to demonstrate the importance which the British government attaches to commercial relations with China, and to demonstrate UK ability to assist in China's industrial expansion.

The team are having talks with senior Chinese ministers and officials concerned with economic and trading matters.

Accompanying Mr Dell are Robert Aldred, chairman, Taylor Woodrow International; Peter Brackley, general manager, BP Processing; Sir John Buckley, chairman, Davy International; David Chapman, director, P.E. Consulting Group; Frank Edwards, deputy chairman, Humpreys and Glasgow; Sir Derek Ezra, chairman, National Coal Board; Sir John Keswick, director, Jardine Matheson and vice-president, the Sino-British Trade Council; Sir Arthur Knight, chairman, Courtaulds; Lord Limerick, director, Kleinwort Benson; Gordon Planner, deputy chairman, Sterling Group; Graham Strachan, group managing director, John Brown Engineering; Sir Peter Thornton, director, Rolls-Royce; and Sir James Woodeson, chairman, Northern Engineering Industries.

Mr Dell and his team are guests of Li Chiang, Minister of Foreign Trade, who visited the UK last November.

UK removes 'burden of past aid loans' for poorer countries

From Monday 17 of the world's poorest developing countries will benefit from the government's decision to cancel past aid loans. In a move known as retrospective terms adjustment (RTA), announced in a parliamentary answer by Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, the government is removing the burden of loans which, if allowed to run to the end of the century, would total £900 million in principal and interest. The maximum cost will be £60 million a year. The cost, Mrs Hart said, would be entirely met from within the increasing aid programme.

The countries that will benefit are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Egypt, The Gambia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nepal, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, and Western Samoa. All have aid repayments outstanding, but are now eligible to receive aid from the UK on grant terms.

Detailed arrangements will be discussed with each of the 17 governments concerned. India will be offered local cost aid instead of RTA.

'But', said Mrs Hart, 'RTA will not be extended to governments which would otherwise qualify but which we regard as having seriously violated human rights'.

Director of Scientific Services

c. £15,000

The Water Authority is seeking to fill the post of Director of Scientific Services.

The Authority is the largest of the Regional Water Authorities in England and Wales and is responsible for the integration of water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal and river management services within a region based geographically on the basin of the River Thames.

The Director will be responsible for regulating the quality of water supplies, effluent discharges, the condition of water resources, and for research and development and general water management science. The Directorate comprises of sections dealing with pollution control, divisional services, medical services, and fisheries and water space recreation. The appointment of the Director will complete the corporate management team of four directors, which under the Chief Executive, is responsible for overall management of the Authority's business. The man or woman appointed should be suitably qualified and have a proven record of senior management in a large scale organisation.

Salary will be in the order of £15,000 p.a.

Application forms and further details available from the Assistant Director (Personnel-Staff), Thames Water, New River Head, Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1R 4TP. Telephone: 01-837 3300 Ext. 2024. Closing date 21 August 1978.

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Home news

British Airways makes £18m profit

British Airways made a profit of £18 million, after tax, on its 1977-78 trading. Taking into account tax of £15 million over-provided in previous years, attributable profit totalled £33 million. Turnover reached £1,355 million – an increase of £107 million over the previous 12 months. This is shown in the airline's annual report and accounts published on 27 July.

Chairman Sir Frank McFadzean pointed out that although the profit for the year was relatively satisfactory, the tax adjustment and the good results from the subsidiary companies had tended to obscure the much less acceptable performance of the airline operations, which were the main pillars of the business.

These operations, in isolation, had shown a surplus of only 4 per cent of revenue over operating expenses. Even after making allowance for the loss of £17 million on Concorde, the margin was uncomfortably small and it mainly resulted from certain well-publicised external and internal factors.

In the year . . .

☐ The airline carried 13.4 million passengers – an 8 per cent decrease on the previous 12 months. Passenger load factor was 59.9 per cent.

☐ Cargo revenue was up from £138 million in 1976-77 to £148 million in the year under review.

☐ British Airtours, the charter subsidiary, saw turnover rise from £28 million to £33 million.

☐ The 26-strong British Airways Helicopter fleet earned pre-tax profits of £3 million.

☐ British Airways Associated Companies, which administers the airline's hotel and other investments, made a pre-tax profit of £2.2 million compared to £0.7 million the previous year.

☐ The airline's tour operating companies increased their turnover and pre-tax profit increased from £1.2 million to £1.9 million.

☐ Reservations handled four million calls at their west London centre.

☐ Computerised reservation facilities were extended to the Caribbean, Iran and other Middle East points and sales of computer services were made to many other airlines.

One of the most important developments during the year had been in the regulatory framework of the industry, Sir Frank said. As competition for low-fare business had intensified, the distinction between scheduled and non-scheduled airlines had become increasingly blurred and the price-fixing activities of the International Air Transport Association had come increasingly under challenge.

He pointed out that the rules were now changing, with many governments looking towards a more competitive regime to meet the needs of an increasingly price-conscious market. Negotiations were likely to be difficult and prolonged, but what was certain was that the trend towards greater competition would continue. If British Airways was to thrive and prosper it must be competitive in the price, cost and quality of the product range it offers.

On new equipment, he said that investment requirements for replacement aircraft would be of the order of £950 million. Re-equipment, involved among other things a continuation of the policy of fleet rationalisation. In addition, some 80 aircraft would not meet the new noise regulations of the mid-80s while a further 25 would be obsolescent before 1986. The magnitude of the task involved in the changeover was considerable. To ease pressures on logistic, staffing, training and back-up resources it was essential that an early start be made on the programme, he said.

The airline's current plan is to self-finance 60 per cent of the capital expenditure required over the next five years, to provide for normal capacity growth and replacements.

PO promotes telegram service

A major campaign to stimulate use of telegrams in Britain was announced on 23 July by the Post Office as part of its plans to revitalise both the inland and international services.

A national advertising campaign aimed at re-creating public awareness of the services started this month emphasises that telegrams are still a fast, sure and uniquely personal way of sending greetings and other messages, as well as providing flexibility in business communications.

The campaign underlines Post Office policy not only to maintain the inland and international telegram services, but to make them a viable, integral and more widely recognised facility of the telecommunications business.

Open broadcasting authority proposed

Establishment of an open broadcasting authority to supervise a new service on the fourth television channel, the expansion of both BBC and independent local radio services and the creation of a single independent broadcasting complaints commission are proposed in a white paper on broadcasting published on 26 July.

The paper proposes that the BBC and IBA continue to be responsible for the broadcasting services they now provide and that the IBA's supervisory responsibilities be extended to embrace cable services, including pilot schemes of pay-television and other forms of local broadcasting.

A Welsh language service will have priority on the fourth channel in Wales, the paper proposes, and the BBC, the IBA and the OBA will be required to conduct public hearings from time to time in different parts of the country to ascertain the views of members of the public about the services they provide.

The white paper, 'Broadcasting', Cmnd 7294, HMSO £1.25, sets out the government's proposals for the future constitution, structure and organisation of broadcasting resulting from its consideration of the report of the committee on the future of broadcasting (chairman, Lord Annan) and of the many comments received on the committee's recommendations. It states that, at the earliest opportunity, the goverment intends to bring forward legislation to give effect to those proposals that are appropriate to legislation and to apply for a new royal charter for the BBC.

The first part of the white paper explains the government's main proposals for the future structure and organisation of broadcasting; the second part sets out conclusions on the detailed constitutional arrangements for

broadcasting and on the other issues raised in the Annan report which call for a response from the government.

The white paper stresses that the UK's broadcasting system should encourage the best possible use of all the talents, creative technical and managerial, upon which good broadcasting depends and draws the principal conclusion that the UK's broadcasting services should continue to be provided as public services and should continue to be the responsibility of public authorities. The government accepts the Annan committee's four requisites for good broadcasting – flexibility, diversity, editorial independence and public accountability.

Film committee welcomes report

The interim action committee on the film industry, meeting on 27 July, welcomed generally the white paper, particularly the government's references to cable relay systems and pay tv in chapter 13.

The fact that the committee's recommendation that pilot schemes of pay tv should be permitted subject to conditions will be included in the new legislation was particularly welcomed. The committee noted the government's acknowledgement that pay tv could have damaging effects on cinemas. The endorsement of the view put to the government by the interim action committee that pay tv might have the advantage of generating new funds for financing the promotion of films was also welcomed.

Benn approves £692.8m CEGB expenditure

Capital expenditure of £692.8 million by the Central Electricity Generating Board and by area electricity boards in England and Wales during the year 1978-79 has been approved by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. This is shown in the secretary of state's annual report on electricity for the year ended 31 March, published on 27 July.

In addition, the secretary of state with the approval of the Treasury, gave consent to the Electricity Council to borrow up to $US 5 million or its equivalent in other foreign currencies, and up to $Canadian 576,706, $US 324,563 and 181,500 deutschmarks. He also gave consent to the Electricity Council to borrow from the European Investment Bank sums totalling the equivalent of £98.1 million towards financing the construction of power stations at Dinorwie in north Wales, Heysham and Hartlepool.

The report also shows that 31 persons were killed, including 15 members of the public, and 532 injured, including 334 members of the public, as a result of accidents in connection with the works or circuits of electricity boards.

Shown in the report – Electricity Report of the Secretary of State for Energy for the year ended 31 March 1978 (HMSO, price 60p) – are details of the research programme carried out by the Electricity Council, the CEGB and the area electricity boards; applications for consents to construct generating stations, and the electricity discount scheme.

Electricity Council records £132.8m profit . . .

Profits of £132.8 million in the 1977-78 financial year were made by the electricity supply industry in England and Wales, after paying interest and providing for depreciation. This was shown in the council's annual report and statement of accounts published on 27 July.

The industry's operating profit for 1977-78, after charging supplementary depreciation, was £570.7 million, representing a 9.0 per cent return on average net assets. On a comparable basis, the operating profit for 1976-77 would have been £481.8 million, representing a 7.9 per cent return.

The cost of fuel, comprising 48.2 per cent of revenue expenditure, rose by 18.3 per cent. The overall increase in the remaining revenue expenditure items was 19.2 per cent, after offsetting savings arising from greater output from nuclear power stations and the results of constant efforts made throughout the industry to contain the effect of inflation on costs generally.

The report is available free of charge from the Electricity Council. The statement of accounts and statistics are available (HMSO, £1.80).

. . . and generating board makes £18.7m

The Central Electricity Generating Board made a net profit of £18.7 million in the year ended 31 March 1978. This is shown in the board's report and accounts, published on 27 July.

For 1977-78 the board pitched its tariff for bulk electricity supplies at a level somewhat lower than would have been allowed under the price code. The aim was to do no more than balance costs and income, thus passing on the benefits of the expected improved productivity.

Revenue costs in 1977-78 included the extra 40 per cent depreciation which was permitted by the price code. This supplementary depreciation amounted to £108.8 million. In 1976-77 the equivalent amount (£104.6 million) formed part of the profit for that year, which was £129.8 million. Thus on a comparable basis the result this year was similar to that last year.

Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, said that the board had achieved a profit of £18.7 million although sales of electricity and maximum demand were both lower than had been expected. Twelve months ago the board had announced its intention to do no more than aim to break even, so as to pass on the benefits it expected to obtain from improved productivity. Bearing in mind that turnover had been more than £3,500 million, the board was broadly on target.

A year ago the board had said that the break even target would allow for an additional provision towards the replacement of power plant, which the board considered necessary and was permitted under the price code.

Fuel accounted for 60 per cent of the cost of producing electricity. The board was therefore deeply concerned that the cost of fossil fuel continued to rise in real terms. In 1977-78 the average cost per tonne had risen by 17 per cent compared with a rise of 14 per cent in the retail price index.

The board's efforts were continuously directed towards minimising the effects of the cost of fuel on its own costs and thus on the price charged to customers. The system was operated in merit order so that the stations with the lowest running costs were always used in preference to those with higher costs. This enables the board to respond to changes in the price of fuel.

MSC increases activities and effectiveness

New programmes and new initiatives were the highlights of 1977-78 for the Manpower Services Commission (MSC). Commission chairman Richard O'Brien described the year as one of 'vigorous and far-reaching activity' in a foreword to the annual report for 1977-78 published on 25 July.

The report shows that the year's main achievements included six new programmes. These were a new programme for training in skills; the continuing modernisation of the employment service; commercial self-sufficiency for the professional and executive recruitment service (PER); more and better job creation and work experience projects; a start to new special programmes for the unemployed, particularly the young; and the development of a comprehensive programme for services to the disabled.

During the period, 1 600 000 people were helped into jobs through the employment service; nearly 100 000 received training under the training opportunities scheme (TOPS); over 100 000 obtained temporary work under the job creation programme; 53 000 young people were given work experience; and 40 000 training places were provided within industry.

Commission allows CPC to increase prices

No restrictions on price increases of 7.34 per cent for maize starch, glucose syrups and derived products notified by CPC (UK) Ltd are recommended by the Price Commission in its report on the industrial division of the company published on 27 July.

The Price Commission says that the reason for the large increase in the company's maize costs during the last four years has been the rapid rise in costs under the EEC's common agricultural policy (CAP).

The commission draws attention to the wide discrepancy which has arisen between the average world price and the present UK price which was further increased on 1 August. The gap may be further widened if a proposal to abolish an EEC production refund is agreed.

Maize represents over 60 per cent of the manufactured cost of the industrial division products, and its price to CPC is almost entirely determined by EEC policy. Within the

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constraints of CAP the commission is satisfied that the company buys maize efficiently.

The commission says that a cut of perhaps 20 per cent could be made in the price of maize starch, glucose syrups and derived products if CPC (UK) Ltd were able to buy maize at the world market price outside the EEC arrangements.

The commission makes two observations about CPC's policy on prices. It says that at present the company does not publish a price list. Customers may make purchasing decisions therefore with inadequate knowledge of the prices paid by other customers. This could raise prices above the level which would otherwise prevail with more open bargaining.

The commission would like to see a move to a more open system of price determination, based on a published price list. Secondly, the commission feels that CPC should consider amending its present system of uniform delivered pricing in order to reflect to a greater extent the varying transport costs to customers.

The report also says that starch and dextrose are transferred by CPC's industrial division to its consumer division at manufacturing cost plus the actual cost of transportation. The commission would like to see in future price notifications the effect of starch and dextrose transfers at open market prices.

Price Commission Investigation report 20:CPC (United Kingdom) Ltd: increases in the prices of maize starch, glucose syrups, starch derived and glucose derived products (HC613, HMSO, £1) was received by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 27 July.

Investigation into tobacco prices . . .

Price increases proposed by Imperial Tobacco Ltd are to be investigated by the Price Commission, it was announced on 28 July. The company wants to increase the listed trade prices of its range of cigarettes and cigarillos by an overall weighted average of £0.7295 per thousand, inclusive of duty. The range includes brands sold under the John Player and Embassy names. The recommended retail prices of cigarettes would in most cases be increased by 2p a packet of 20.

The commission has notified the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection that it intends to investigate the increases.

. . . and cigarette papers

Prices of cigarette paper booklets, filter tips and certain accessories, such as cigarette rolling machines, manufactured by the General Paper and Box Manufacturing Co Ltd and marketed by Rizla Ltd are to be investigated, the Price Commission announced on 28 July. There has been some complaint about the prices of cigarette-making products, in which the two companies being investigated have a virtual monopoly in the United Kingdom market.

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has been notified about the investigation.

Car leasing and tax provisions

For certain new forms of car leasing, Inland Revenue has pointed out that taxation provisions not normally relevant to traditional leases may need to be considered.

This would concern leases where rentals are normally calculated by reference to a residual value, which is lower than the expected open-market value of the car at the end of the lease, and the car is then sold at that price to a person connected with the lessee, instead of being sold on the open market and at the open-market price. The person connected with the lessee thus acquires a car for less than its market value.

Inland Revenue explains that there are many variations on this basic pattern. For instance, the residual value of the car used in calculating the rentals may be purely nominal, or may be simply a conservative estimate of the market value. The lease itself may provide for the sale of the car to a nominee of the lessee, or the car may pass through several hands before reaching the person connected with the lessee.

So far as the lessor is concerned, Inland Revenue says that it may be appropriate to regard the car as stock-in-trade rather than an asset qualifying for capital allowances. If capital allowances were given, the provisions of section 44 (6) (b) Finance Act 1971 may require the open market value of the car to be brought into the taxation computation at the end of the lease rather than the sale proceeds.

The lessee's rental payments may be disallowed in whole or in part, under section 130(a) or section 130(f) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 as not being made wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the business or as being in part capital expenditure. The person connected with the lessee who acquires the car may be liable under the provisions of schedule E on any benefit he obtains, or under section 492 *et seq* of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 if the car is sold. The taxation adjustments required in any particular case will depend on its circumstances.

Inspectors of taxes have been given advice on dealing with leasing arrangements of this kind, and will be making inquiries and seeking adjustments as necessary when dealing with taxpayers whose liabilities are, or may be, affected. Where a taxpayer cannot reach agreement with the inspector of taxes about his liability, the usual rights of appeal will be available.

Merger proposals cleared

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the proposed acquisition by Ready Mixed Concrete Ltd of a 50 per cent share in British Dredging (Sand and Gravel) Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

On information at present before him, Mr Hattersley has also decided not to refer the proposed merger of the insurance interests in the United Kingdom of Allstate Insurance Company and the Great Universal Stores Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the act.

Unit trust managers' charges to be examined

A study of unit trust managers' charges is to be undertaken for the Department of Trade by the Price Commission.

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, announced the study in parliament on 28 July. He said that the department, with the agreement and co-operation of the Unit Trust Association, had commissioned the Price Commission to carry out an inquiry with the following terms of reference:

to study the method of determining profits, and the level of such profits made by management companies from their authorised unit trust activities in recent years; to consider whether the formulae controlling the maximum charges borne by unitholders are appropriate in the light of economic developments during this period; and to suggest ways of modifying these formulae if this seems appropriate.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the inquiry, which was in no sense an arbitration between the department and unit trust managers, was expected to take three months. It would be conducted on an informal basis. The statutory provisions of the Price Commission Act 1977 under which the commission examined questions relating to prices and charges would not apply in this case. In formulating its judgment, however, the commission intended to be guided inter alia by the criteria set out in section 2 of the Price Commission Act 1977.

The commission would report to the department, who would pay for the cost of the inquiry and the report would be made available to unit trust managers.

Price Commission moves headquarters

The Price Commission has moved all its headquarters branches previously in three separate buildings in Westminster – south of the Thames. It is now based near the new Covent Garden market in Vauxhall.

The new address is: Price Commission, Market Towers, 1 Nine Elms Lane, London SW8, tel. 01-720 2188. The commission's home counties regional office which deals with inquiries from London and the south-east remains at 5 Trinity Street, London SE1.

Government announces £4.5m for Mullard

A grant of £4.5 million has been made to assist Mullard in the modernisation of their tube assembly plant at Durham and the establishment of a new production line at Simonstone.

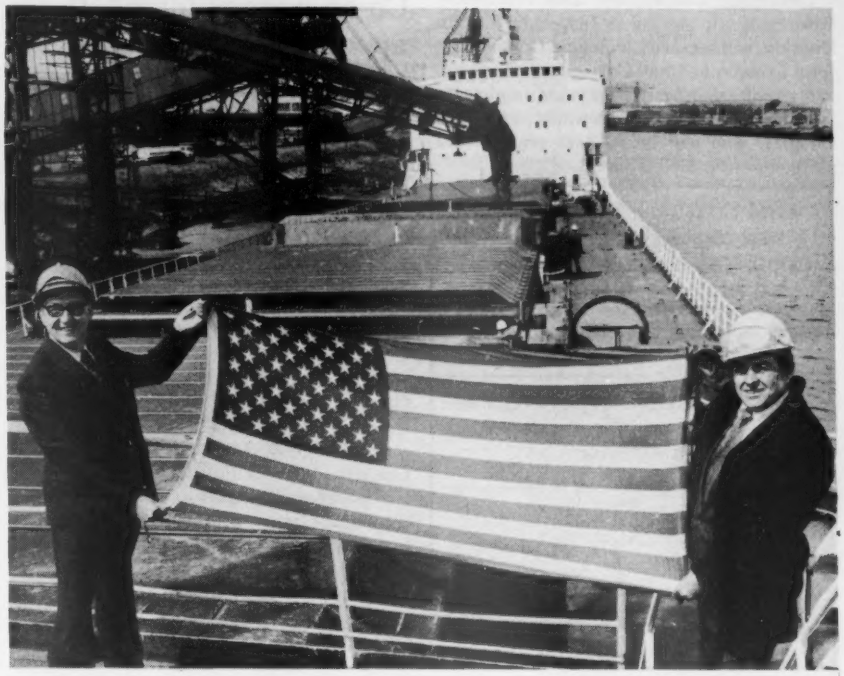
Answering a parliamentary question on 28 July, Alan Williams, Minister of State, at the

Department of Industry, said that with a £4.5 million grant provided by the government under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 Mullard had launched a £24 million, three-year investment plan to modernise the manufacturing facilities at the company's tube assembly plant at Durhan, and to establish a new 20in 90° tube production line at their Simonstone plant. Investment at Simonstone would total £13.1 million and at Durham £7.8 million. Further investments of £2.4 million could be made at Washington, which made the neck components for the tubes and £0.9 million at Crossens where the incorporated magnetic components were produced.

By specialising in the production of 20in and 22in tubes, Mullard would be well placed to meet the growing demand within the EEC for tube sizes below 26 in.

Mr Williams told parliament that the government had consistently stated its determination to maintain a viable colour television tube making capacity in the UK. In order to assist this major investment programme, the government reaffirmed its support for the Radio Industry Council initiative of October 1977 under which UK set-makers agreed to increase their use of UK made tubes, in particular the 22in tube. The government was taking steps both to enable UK set-makers to increase their proportion of 22in tubes made in the UK up to 75 per cent by 1980 and to monitor systematically the achievement of this objective.

Waving the flag – for biggest coke shipment to US



Fighting for exports in the face of a worldwide steel recession, the National Coal Board's coking industry in the north east has landed a major order from the United States. It is for 10 000 tonnes of blast furnace coke for Ford, Detroit. Waving a US flag to mark the biggest single shipment of Durham blast furnace coke – aboard the largest vessel ever to berth at the NCB's Jarrow Staiths – are Ron Smith (left) shipping superintendent at Jarrow Staiths for the past 36 years and Bob Blair, marketing officer, operations and shipping of National Smokeless Fuels (Northern).

Study of land for housebuilding in Greater Manchester

A study of the supply of land for private housebuilding in the Greater Manchester area is being carried out by the Department of the Environment in collaboration with the housebuilders organisations, the National House Building Council and the local authorities.

This was announced by Reg Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction on 26 July, in reply to a parliamentary question.

Mr Freeson said that his department, in conjunction with the National House Building Council, the House Builders' Federation and the Federation of Master Builders, was co-operating with the 11 local authorities in the Greater Manchester area in a study of the availablity of land for private housebuilding in that area. He hoped all the parties would gain lessons which could be applied elsewhere.

'I have already stressed to local authorities generally in a recent circular the importance of thorough local studies in consultation with the housebuilders and I have urged the industry to co-operate in this,' he said.

New measures for dangerous road goods

Plans to speed up regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by road were outlined by William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport on 26 July.

Answering a parliamentary question Mr Rodgers said that he had told the chairman of the Health and Safety Commission that he expected the tanker-labelling regulations to be produced now very quickly, and that he proposed to have them on the statute book before the end of this year.

He had again stressed the urgency of comprehensive regulations for the transport of dangerous goods including in particular the design of vehicles. The commission expected to issue a consultative document by October, towards producing final proposals as soon as possible next year.

To deal with the interim period, Mr Rodgers said that he had decided to tighten the enforcement of existing requirements by greater concentration of effort by vehicle examiners on vehicles carrying dangerous substances. In particular the frequency of vehicle tests and other checks would be increased.

The secretary of state is to hold discussions very soon, both with the chairman of the Health and Safety Commission and with industry about the possibility of further urgent action both by legislation and in other ways.

Award for saving life at sea

Captain David Stewart Ormiston, master of m.v. *Valerie*, has been given an award by Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, in recognition of his outstanding seamanship in rescuing 13 men from a sinking vessel in the North Sea.

Coal burn scheme extended

Present government assistance to the National Coal Board is to be extended for coal burn at South Wales power stations and to be widened to include additional coal burn at the Aberthaw B power station, Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Energy, announced on 28 July. The wider scheme will run until the end of October. The present scheme covers Welsh coal burn at Aberthaw A, Camarthen Bay and Didcot power stations.

Coastguard service to be reorganised

From 1 September, HM Coastguard will be reorganised into six regions instead of the existing 11 divisions, it was announced on 26 July. Each region will incorporate a maritime rescue co-ordination centre supported by maritime rescue sub-centres, of which there will be 22 in all.

There will thus be 28 districts as at present. Progressively, there will be greater concentration of experienced staff at regional and district

centres. Elsewhere auxiliary staff working under the supervision of regular coastguards will be widely used. Consultation with local interests will take place on the details and timing of changes.

Lieutenant Commander Tim Fetherston-Dilke currently serving as Inspector, Eastern Division, will succeed Lieutenant Commander John Douglas as Chief Coastguard. The reorganisation will take some time to implement fully and it has therefore been agreed that Cdr Douglas, who will be 60 next year, should make way now for his successor.

Local firm to occupy Hull factory

ANR Screen Process Printing and Design Centre is to occupy a 225 m² terrace unit built by the English Industrial Estates Corporation on the Department on Industry's Sutton Fields industrial estate at Hull.

ANR is a small company offering a wide range of products. The screen printing and electro-static flock printing of T-shirts and other garments accounts for a substantial proportion of its work. In addition, ANR manufactures advertising and display products – from self adhesives to welded metal display units. The premises the company currently occupies are to small with no room for expansion, but with the acquisition of this new unit it will enable ANR to expand manufacture.

Start made on Denton factory

Work has started on a 900 m² advance factory for the Department of Industry on the department's site in Oldham Street, Denton, Greater Manchester, the English Industrial Estates Corporation announced on 28 July. Construction should be completed, ready for occupation, in December this year.

Inquiries about purchase or lease should be addressed to Mr P. R. Davidson, Department of Industry, North West Region, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA, tel. 061-236 2171 ext. 646.

Co-op agency members appointed

Members of the Co-operative Development Agency were named on 25 July. The appointment of Lord Oram as the agency's first chairman was announced earlier (see *Trade and Industry*, 14 July).

In reply to a parliamentary question Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, announced that the other members would be G. D. Brown, Co-operative Party Scottish Committee; H. Campbell, director, North British Co-operative Housing Centre; J. B. Garrett, founder member, Belfast Improved Houses Ltd; Mrs L. Howe, editor, *Co-operative news*; J. Morley, secretary, Central Council for Agricultural and Horticultural Co-operation; Mrs G. Norman, joint author of the Anglo-German foundation's report on the Spanish producer co-operatives at Mondragon; R. D. Sawtell, chairman of trustees of Industrial Common Ownership Finance Ltd; Sir Arthur Sugden, chief executive, Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The appointments are for three years from 1 September.

New title for National Giro

National Giro, the banking arm of the Post Office, has been renamed the National Girobank. Explaining the change, the Post Office says that the new title better describes the service now that it is providing a broad range of corporate and personal banking facilities. A new logo-type will be introduced over the next few months on all promotional literature, signs at post offices and on Giro-cheques and transfers.

New property advisory group agrees programme

A standing group has been set up to advise on the property market, including the regeneration of inner cities.

Guy Barnett, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment, said in a reply to a parliamentary question on 26 July that the secretary of state's predecessor established early in 1975, during the introduction of the community land scheme, an advisory group on commercial property development. This group in essence fulfilled its remit with the publication of its report at the end of 1975 and it has been succeeded by a standing property advisory group.

The new group will carry out substantial investigations as necessary, will maintain a watching brief on the property market, give the department regular reports of general trends and warning of difficulties, and will provide expert advice on current issues. A particular concern of the group initially will be the contribution of property development in the regeneration of inner urban areas.

Substantial study

The group met for the first time on 25 July to decide on a programme of work. It has agreed to undertake a substantial study of the future structure and activity of the development industry – how the roles of landowner, investor and developer are changing and how the changes are likely to affect new development. This should provide guidance for local authorities generally in promoting development under the community land scheme, and particular attention will be paid to inner city areas. The group is likely to be seeking evidence in connection with this study later in the year.

Official appointments

Gas Consumers' Council. Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Roy Hattersley has appointed Councillor M. Lacey as a member of the South Western Gas Consumers' Council until 31 August 1981; and Councillor N. Lindsay as a member of the Scottish Gas Consumers' Council until 31 May 1981.
Electricity Consultative Council. The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has appointed Councillor Mrs Davis, Councillor Mrs M. Taylor, Dr R. Etheridge, R. Khera, P. Burton, Miss S. Tart and Mrs J. Berry as members of the Midlands Electricity Consultative Council until 30 April 1981.

Bristow Helicopters appeal dismissed

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has dismissed an appeal by Bristow Helicopters Ltd against the decision of the Civil Aviation Authority to grant an application by Management Aviation Ltd to operate the S61N helicopter on their north sea oil and gas operations.

Places limited at BSI's annual conference

'Company Standards – why? what? how? who?' is the title of the British Standards Institution's annual conference. It will be held at the Royal Holloway College, Egham, Surrey from 28 to 29 September, and, BSI says, places will be limited.

Opening-day lectures will include 'the economics of company organisation' by J. J. Fallon of MK Electric Ltd; 'the scope of company standards' by G. A. B. Edwards of G. A. B. Edwards and Associates; and 'public purchasing to standards' by J. B. Lambie of the Ministry of Defence. Other highlights will be the first Butcher Memorial Lecture, followed by the annual general meeting of BSI Standards Associates, and a conference dinner in the evening.

The second day's programme features, 'promoting standards consciousness' by C. T. Taylor of Bendix Westinghouse Ltd; 'recognis-

ing the contribution of the standards engineer to quality' by R. Brewer, a quality consultant; 'company standards and overseas requirements' by Dr G. E. Hollox of RHP Bearings Ltd; and finally, 'multinational companies – the advantage of a corporate standards policy' by G. J. Pearmain of Philips Industries.

Application forms for the conference are available from Miss V. M. Ruff, Secretary, BSI Standards Associates, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS.

Patents recorded 'licences of right'

Under section 46 of the Patents Act 1977 the register was noted 'licences of right' in respect of the following patents on the date specified:

12 July 1978

1313384 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Process for the production of photographic materials which have outer layers having improved frictional properties

1340544 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Photographic silver halide material having improved properties

1370706 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
A process for the preparation of photographic silver salt emulsions

1371563 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Process of desilvering of photographic bleach-fix baths

1416455 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Photographic silver salt emulsion with increased sensitivity

1456595 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
A method of and an apparatus for filling membrane cassettes

1457333 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
An apparatus for recording ink-jet-images

1480415 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Apparatus for recording ink jet images

1494834 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
An arrangement for measuring and regulating the tension level of moving webs of material

1264668 Arnold Cellophane Corporation
Heat sealable polyolefin films

1404134 Auto Medical Limited
Improvements in or relating to apparatus for controlling the flow of liquids

1446829 Rudolf Rohrmann
Pharmaceutical compositions

1493224 Italsider SpA
Zinc-based alloy for coating steel and products coated therewith

Any person who claims that the proprietor of the patent is, and was at the time of entry, precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patent may, within three months after the making of the relevant entry, apply to the comptroller on patents form 31/77 for cancellation of the entry.

I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

Government sales

Sales by auction

16 August 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location:
Auctioneers Premises

Auctioners:
Woolland Son and Manico (Dept L), Kinterbury House, St Andrews Cross, Plymouth (0752 69292)

Stores lying in the West Country including clothing and textiles, mattresses and hammocks, furniture and household effects, watches and clocks, telescopes, binoculars, machine and hand tools, electrical and MT spares, tyres. Vehicles including Bedford trucks, refuellers, double decker buses, crane and fork lift trucks.

23 August 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location:
The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers:
Bartle and Son (Dept L), 1a Bridge Street, Tadcaster, N Yorks (0937 835303)

Machine tools, motor spares, vehicles, tyres, wireless spares, clothing, footwear, blankets, carpets, furniture, householdware and many other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p.

New assistant official receiver

Alan Maxwell Chester has been appointed assistant official receiver for the bankruptcy districts of the county courts of Great Grimsby, Kingston upon Hull, Scarborough, Scunthorpe and York with effect from 24 July 1978.

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New publications

Concentrating on food

Concentration in the UK's food distribution industry provides the theme for the latest study in the European commission's industrial sectors series. Like other volumes in the series, which has been examining the growth and development of industrial concentration in member states, this is based primarily on the work of national experts and institutes.

Earlier reports in the series have covered a variety of industries including the UK textile industry (see *Trade and Industry*, 18 June 1976, page 107) and the electrical appliances industry (*Trade and Industry*, 25 November 1977, page 386).

The present report is one of two volumes: its predecessor, volume II, which was for some reason published first, outlined the results of research on the distribution of food products and was based on samples of products and sales points in the Greater London area. Now volume I examines recent general trends in the industry over the past 25 years, and, in particular, the impact of larger multiple stores, 'cash and carry' wholesaling, co-operative societies and fresh food stores. Many useful statistical tables are included, but the latest figures date back to 1975.

A Study of the Evolution of Concentration in the Food Distribution Industry for the United Kingdom. Volume I Industry structure and concentration, by Development Analysts Ltd. Commission of the European Communities. 1977. Available from HMSO. 230 pages; paperback £4.40. (ISBN 0 11937 345 9).

A Study of the Evolution of Concentration in the Food Distribution Industry for the United Kingdom. Volume II, 1976. Available from HMSO; paperback £2.85. (ISBN 0 11936 496 4).

Microfilm: growth industry

Over the past four years the microform industry – covering microfilm and microfiche – has boosted its annual turnover by more than 20 per cent in each consecutive year. And, for the commercial world, the substantial advantages offered by the use of microforms are becoming increasingly obvious. Altogether, an opportune moment for the Business Equipment Trade Association to publish another book on the subject – its fourth.

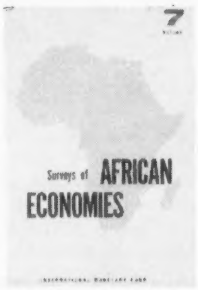
'An introduction to microfilm' is aimed primarily at organisations considering introducing microfilm for the first time. It should however also prove valuable to experienced users as a guide to the various types and makes of equipment available.

Written in terms that the non-expert should understand, the types of machines and processes are explained clearly and concisely. Readers' attention is drawn to various points that at first glance may not have been considered – legal aspects, value-added tax and British and international standards on microfilm equipment. There is a particularly useful set of questions – a checklist that the potential user is advised to peruse.

For the most part the book is in the form of a directory, with names of manufacturers and UK suppliers, plus addresses, telephone numbers and personal contacts. Trade names and trade marks are also listed. The guide should prove valuable to anyone with an interest in microfilms.

An Introduction to Microfilm (including equipment, systems and services available in the UK), by A. D. Smith. Business Equipment Trade Association, 109 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PU. 1978. 105 pages; paperback £4.00. (ISBN 0 90341012 5).

Changes of fortune in Africa



Attempts by newly independent African states to secure economic stability and growth are often subject to large and rapidly fluctuating changes of fortune. The economic performances of Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Mali in the years 1970-74, to which the International Monetary Fund has turned its attention in the latest of its series of 'Surveys of African Economies', provide striking evidence of this.

The possession and prudent exploitation of important mineral resources in the form of petroleum or phosphates have enabled some countries to maintain steady growth rates and implement plans for greater economic diversification by developing industrial bases and decreasing their traditional reliance on outdated agricultural systems. However Mali depends greatly on agricultural output (43 per cent of gdp) for its livelihood.

In the period covered by this survey the Malian economy suffered a major setback when a prolonged drought decimated its principal source of revenue, and forced the government to resort to the widespread importation of foodstuffs. The oil price rises of 1973, which benefited Mali's more fortunate neighbours, unfortunately represented a significant blow to its economy from which it has yet to recover.

The IMF is actively involved in the development of all these states through its provision of financial and technical assistance, and this comprehensive and detailed survey stems from its close association with the governments concerned.

After a general introduction on the region as a whole, the survey provides an exhaustive analysis of each country's economy, illustrated by statistical tables compiled by the governments' statistical agencies. As the survey concentrates on the period 1970-74, its findings are not up-to-date, but it nevertheless provides an invaluable and convenient source of background information on past economic performance and long-term prospects in a generally neglected region.

Surveys of African Economies – volume 7: Algeria, Mali, Morocco and Tunisia. International Monetary Fund, 1977. Available from HMSO, xxi, 374 pages, £3.25. (ISBN 0 11982675 5).

Reindustrialisation of Britain

How to improve Britain's industrial performance is the subject of much debate, but there is little consensus on the best method of approaching the problem. The debate was renewed at last year's annual conference of the Society of Business Economists, and the proceedings have now been published.

The conference brought together representatives of industry, government and trade unions at King's College, Cambridge, last summer to discuss 'the reindustrialisation of Britain'. The objective was to indicate how an improvement in industrial performance could best be achieved.

Generally, the speakers opted for a realistic approach – that of people who know industry from the inside. No 'magic formula' conclusions were offered, but some down-to-earth suggestions were made. Among the various topics touched on were North Sea oil, industrial relations and worker participation in each case examining their long-term effects.

This was a memorable gathering and the speeches make thought-provoking reading.

The Reindustrialisation of Britain; edited by Robert H. Jones. Society of Business Economists, 11 Bay Tree Walk, Watford, Hertfordshire. 1978. 90 pages; paperback £4.50.

Export performance measured

In its series of investigations into the workings of British industry, Industrial Market Research Ltd has now published the first of three reports on the performance of companies in the export market. It provides a wide spectrum of comparable data – collected from 560 companies, half of which operate in Great Britain and half in West Germany – against which readers can measure their own company performance.

The first volume, 'How British Industry Exports', describes how export executives organise and operate in this country. In two subsequent volumes (also available from Industrial Market Research) IMR deals with West Germany and provides an inter-country comparison.

Data obtained from the survey includes details of company administrative structures and deployment of staff in export marketing, plus marketing techniques and utilisation of available resources, and trends of actual performance.

Some interesting conclusions are advanced on, for example, the relationship between company size and export activity and the differing market potentials of industrial and consumer goods. The report will provide a useful source for anyone reappraising strategy in overseas trade.

How British Industry Exports. Industrial Market Research Ltd, 17 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LN. 1978. 154 pages; ringbound £15.00. (ISBN 0 90614201 6).

Technology news

Pera survey highlights use of plastics

Increasing use of plastics as replacements for metals was highlighted in a survey carried out by the Production Engineering Research Association (Pera). In order of popularity, the factors which influenced conversion to plastics were low weight, corrosion resistance, lower cost, wear resistance and good electrical insulation.

The survey, which cost £6,000, was supported wholly by the mechanical engineering and machine tools requirement board of the Department of Industry. Eight main engineering industries were covered by the survey and 85 specific examples of components translated from metals to plastics were identified.

High energy costs have caused price increases in both metals and plastics, but in recent years, costs of metals have risen far more than those of plastics. For example, since 1973, the cost by volume of Nylon 66 has risen by about 30 per cent whereas the cost of die-cast zinc has risen by more than 250 per cent.

Comparisons conducted by Pera between plastics and metals, as part of its investigation, emphasised the superior properties and performance of plastics which made them the preferred choice for certain types of applications. For a number of the applications studied, it was found that plastics had been chosen because they provided the best solution to particular problems associated with, for example, corrosion, weight, thermal and electrical insulation, and noise absorption. Reinforced plastics, in particular, provided greater strength-to-weight and stiffness-to-weight ratios, when compared with the metals they replaced.

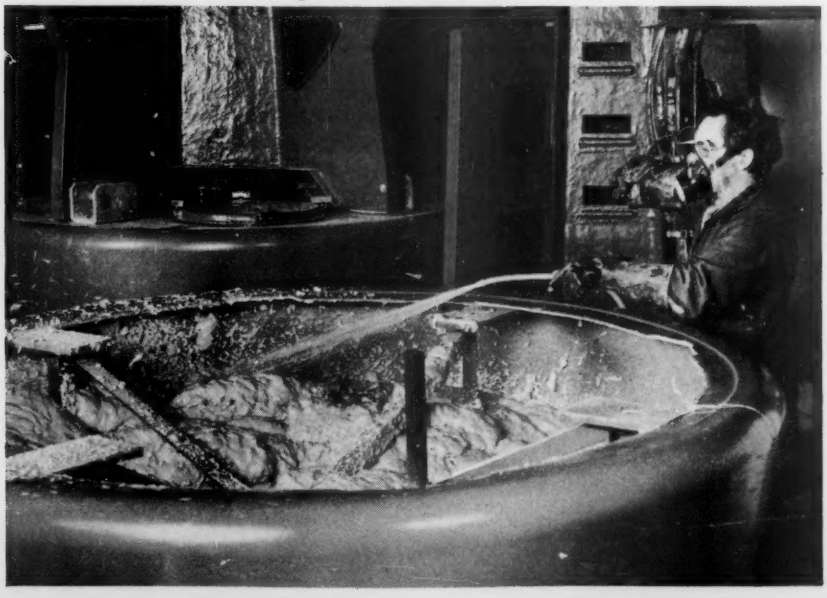
Use of plastics in this lorry cab gave a 10 per cent cost saving.

In-depth studies of specific cases where a decision had been made to manufacture components in plastic, where hitherto they had been produced in metal, revealed very definite economic and technical reasons for the change. A lorry cab which cost 10 per cent less than a steel cab was 15 to 20 per cent lighter. Tooling for the plastic components cost £1 million less than tooling for steel components. A marine buoy which, due to its closed-cell polyurethane foam filling, was virtually unsinkable. Since colouring is moulded-in during manufacture no painting is required, almost eliminating maintenance.

Domestic water taps made in plastics cost 30 per cent less than brass taps and can be produced in a range of moulded-in colours. Performance is excellent due to the unobstructed water flow over the highly finished internal surfaces. Light-weight, electric rotary hammer with glass-reinforced nylon chosen for certain components gave low weight for ease of handling and a high degree of electrical safety.

The survey has shown that even where the use of metals is well established, there is scope for replacement by the higher performance plastics. This trend will undoubtedly continue as designers gain confidence in plastics and as new and improved plastics are developed. For more information, contact Pera, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 0PB, tel. Melton Mowbray 4133.

Filling the base of the plastics moulded marine buoy with polyurethane foam, making it virtually unsinkable, at the works of Hunting Industrial Plastics Ltd.



NRDC backs development of decompression lifeboat

Divers in compression chambers on the decks of oil exploration platforms are in a particularly vulnerable position in the event of a blow-out or fire. On 26 July, the National Research Development Corporation announced an investment of £180,000 to support the design and construction by Seaforth Maritime Ltd, Aberdeen, of a prototype diver lifeboat chamber suitable for use in an emergency during offshore diving operations. The corporation's contribution represents 50 per cent of the design and construction costs.

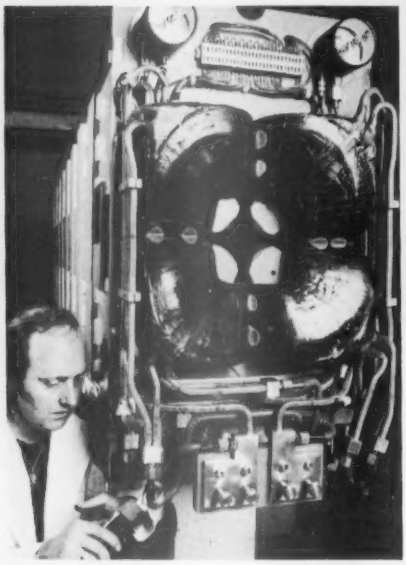
Because of the need for slow and controlled decompression, it is not possible to immediately move a large team of divers out of a diving system without serious, and usually fatal, results. The chambers are too heavy to be lifted by helicopters and to remain on the decks is to face the possibility of death by fire.

Seaforth Maritime plans to provide a lifeboat rescue chamber which will enable a full team of up to 12 divers, living under pressure in a large saturation diving complex offshore, to escape to safety. The lifeboat will normally form an integral part of the diving system as the decompression chamber. It will be provided with quick connection couplings and flotation chambers and, in the event of an emergency, the divers within the chamber will be able to disconnect it prior to a controlled descent into the sea.

Life support systems on board will maintain constant atmospheric conditions inside the chamber for 24 hours, allowing the craft to be either placed on board a rescue vessel in the vicinity or towed to a separate, fixed installa-

tion or to the shore. The lifeboat chamber will be approximately 6.5 m in length, 2.1 m in diameter and will be provided with three entrances, four viewing ports and a service lock. The overall weight of the craft will be about 30 tonne. When in use as a decompression chamber, it will accommodate four divers, and provision will be made for sleeping bunks, seats, tables, toilet and shower and washing facilities.

British magnets speed the proton



Twenty tonnes of magnet, constructed to a tolerance of plus or minus 0.75 mm in length and 0.03 mm in flatness, is checked at Morfax Ltd before despatch to the Centre for European Nuclear Research (Cern) in Geneva, Switzerland. The magnet is of the quadrupole type and – along with 162 similar quadrupoles and 120 dipoles also supplied by the company – will form part of the new north experimental area at Cern. The north area is linked to the giant super proton synchrotron particle accelerator being used to add to man's understanding of the nature of matter. The quadrupole magnets will be used to accelerate sub-atomic protons away from the main accelerator ring and into the new experimental area where further research can be conducted. The dipole magnets control the centralisation of the beam of particles as it hurtles along within a vacuum tube reaching a terminal velocity of 99.9997 per cent of the speed of light.

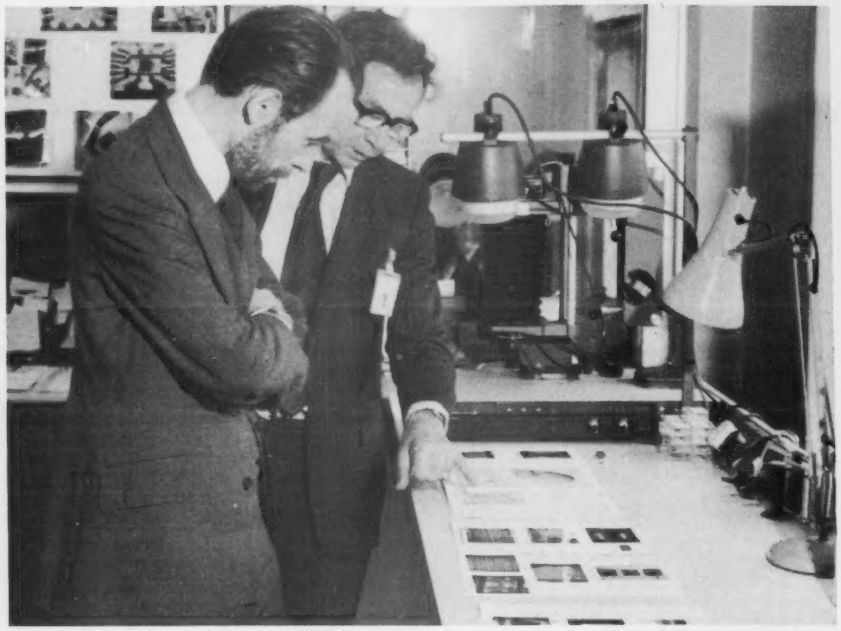
All systems 'go' for OTS 2

OTS 2 – the European Space Agency's first communications satellite – is fully operational on station and performing extremely well. The present status of on board systems indicate that its specified life in orbit will be doubled.

Built by the European Mesh consortium led by British Aerospace Dynamics Group, Stevenage, OTS 2 is now well established in its geostationary position eight weeks after successful launch from Cape Canaveral. Spacecraft and payload tests are being conducted every day, on a 24 hour basis, with growing confidence in the successful performance of the satellite. As a result, additional time is becoming available for communications specialists to conduct their test programmes.

Power generation and conditioning performance is nominal with two out of eight solar array sections in reserve. Telemetry tracking and command has now switched to shf after successfully functioning on vhf during initial operations. Both transmitters have been functionally tested and are serviceable.

Huckfield sees microprocessor work at ERA laboratories



Dr Parkman (right) of ERA Ltd explains the process of failure analysis of microprocessors to Les Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, who was visiting ERA's laboratories at Leatherhead on 20 July. Mr Huckfield was shown examples of the way ERA is working for government, industry and commerce in the areas of microprocessors and their applications, electromagnetic compatibility, long-term properties of steels and plastics, and terotechnology.

Chinese mechanical engineers shown round NPL

A delegation from the China Mechanical Engineering Society being shown a new National Physical Laboratory designed diametral extensometer during their visit to the Department of Industry's laboratory on 26 July. Mr M. S. Loveday (left) of the division of materials applications explains that the extensometer, for measuring strain in notched specimens, is used for testing materials used at high temperatures in pressure vessels and turbine blades.

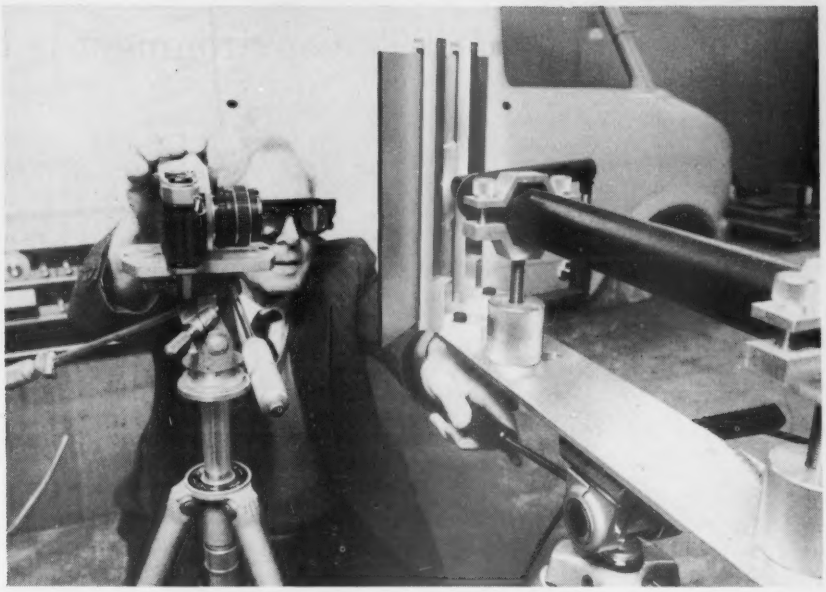
Attitude and orbit control systems are performing successfully with pointing errors in both pitch and roll of less than 0.02 degrees being achieved. The reaction control system is performing particularly well, and as a result of an excellent geosynchronous injection, sufficient fuel remains on board for at least six years normal operation – well beyond the maximum life envisaged for the satellite.

The payload is currently fully operational. All channels have been tested, but, as planned, only one channel of module B is now active. Antenna pattern tests are still in progress, but results so far indicate no anomalies. All ESA Earth stations being used in the orbital test programme are operating satisfactorily, and most non-ESA propagation stations are working well. The orbital test programme work completed to date has been extremely satisfactory.

Electric car re-charges itself

An electric car has been introduced by Lee-Dickens Ltd of Kettering as a test vehicle for a hybrid unit that re-charges its own batteries. In the 'boot' is a petrol electric generator designed to replace a conventional engine and eliminate the need for a propellor-shaft and differential gears. Adjacent to it are four 12-volt heavy-duty car batteries. These batteries and a 2½ hp electric motor fitted over each of the rear wheels are charged and driven in parallel simultaneously by the generator. The generator runs continuously at an almost constant speed. When the car slows down or stops its energy output is transferred automatically to the batteries. For high-speed running and climbing hills the electric motors draw extra power from the batteries, which are re-charged when the car reverts to an average speed or stops. If the generator fails the car can still be driven for 32 km on the batteries alone. This method of propulsion is not new, but the electronics have been refined and petrol consumption could be cut in half for a two-litre sized car powered by this method. Pollution would be reduced and the system is easy to maintain and operate.

Laser used in reducing noise in vehicles



A family car as quiet as a luxury Rolls-Royce could be the outcome of research into the reduction of noise inside vehicles currently under investigation at the Cranfield Institute of Technology. Here Guy Tidbury, a senior lecturer at the institute adjusts laser equipment that will detect vibrations artificially induced in the body of a van. The technique uses a low-powered helium-neon laser that is diverged to cover a section of bodywork up to 2 m². This diverged beam produces a little known phenomenon – laser speckle – that is caused by laser light striking the panel surface and being scattered into a criss-cross of rays in the space in front of it. When the rays cross they interfere with one another, combining to give a pattern of bright spots and dark spaces. This effect can be made visible to the human eye using special glasses with a de-focussing lens. A photograph can also be taken of what is happening on the panel surface. Design engineers can then see precisely what is needed to quieten the car panel and the exact point to apply the correction.

Tornado flies faster at low levels

During recent envelope expansion flights at British Aerospace Warton division, the Panavia Tornado has been flown at indicated air speeds of up to 800 knots (920 mph) down to comparatively low levels. Most modern military aircraft have an indicated air speed limit between 700 knots and 750 knots for structural strength reasons. Tornado was reported to retain its excellent handling characteristics up to 800 knots where the cabin noise was found to be remarkably non-obtrusive with no impairment of crew intercom or radio communications. The strike Tornado's protection against enemy action lies in its ability to fly at very high speed at very low level and in its electronic counter measures.

Consultancy laboratories form toxic hazard testing facility

Combining the facilities and expertise of the consultancy laboratories of Stanton Redcroft and BOC Ltd, (Special Gases), has made available a new service for the characterisation of toxic products of combustion and thermal decomposition. The joint venture is designed to meet the demand created by increased concern over toxic hazards and industrial hygiene.

In the environmental context it is important to understand the mode breakdown and extent of the toxic products evolved when a material decomposes under the action of heat or fire. The scope of the venture is such that work from single experiments to large projects may be carried out, with costing on a 'per sample' or contract basis.

Stanton Redcroft, specialists in the field of thermal analysis and flammability, have available a full range of modern facilities for the decomposition of materials by combustion or by heating in various atmospheres. Accurately controlled temperatures and atmospheres may be chosen to simulate environmental, operational or burning conditions.

These facilities are complemented by the sophisticated instrumental capability of the neighbouring BOC analytical services. Using these techniques quantities of products from percentage to parts-per-million levels may be accurately determined.

A research contract awarded by the Building Research Establishment's Fire Research Station will utilise the techniques of both laboratories to investigate the combustion products of some polymeric materials under carefully controlled temperatures and environments.

Further information: circle 105

More about micro-processors

'Micro-processors in automation and communications' is an Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers' four-day conference. It is to be held at the University of Kent, Canterbury, on 19 to 22 September. Contributors from universities and industry in the UK and overseas are to present papers on the application of micro-processors in education, medicine, signal processing, telecommunications, automation, and some general industrial processes. Two sessions will deal with the programming of microprocessors. Further information from the Conference Secretariat, IERE, 99 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AZ, tel. 01-388 3071.

'The application of micro-processors and mini-computers in manufacturing' is an Institution of Production Engineers' one-day seminar. It is to be held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, London, on 29 November. Part of a wider programme of education into the use of modern computing techniques in the many facets of manufacturing, the seminar will offer practical guidance to managers and senior staff engaged in engineering. An explanatory session will explain what micro-processors and mini-computers are, how they work, and their relation to programmable controllers. It will continue with a number of examples drawn from typical manufacturing processes – like welding, mechanical handling, heat treatment and machine shops – all involving on-line monitoring or control of production processes. Further information from the Conference Secretary, The Institution of Production Engineers, Rochester House, 66 Little Ealing Lane, London, W5 4XX, tel. 01-579 9411.

The environment is Harwell's business

Mention Hither Green, Flixborough or *Torrey Canyon* to rail commuters, chemical plant operators or marine insurers and they will recoil. Mention them to Harwell research scientists and the reaction is one of intense interest; not so much in the disaster itself, but in how it was caused, and how a repetition could be averted.

To Harwell disasters are business. Research is also Harwell's business. The above examples reflect the breadth of the laboratory's research in the environmental fields. A common thread that runs through all 'environmental' research done at the laboratory is the development of new materials, techniques and systems that make our environment a more acceptable one in which to live.

Harwell, a research laboratory of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, was set up in 1946 to be a research centre 'covering all aspects of the use of atomic energy'. The Harwell of 1978 is a very different place. For the last 12 years or so, nearly half of its 1200 scientists and engineers and their extensive support staff have channelled a lot of their energies into other research work, much of which is broadly aimed at supporting industry and helping it to be productive.

It is here that the paths of the laboratory's environmental, industrial and nuclear interests cross. It was in the attempt to make nuclear power clean and safe, as well as efficient, that Harwell became involved in work directly connected both in improving our natural environment and channelling some of the expertise it had acquired to other organisations who found they could use this knowledge to improve their own efficiency, output, or health and safety standards.

The case of fecralloy steel is a good example. 'Fecralloy' is the trade name of a new family of stainless steels developed by Harwell and now licensed to industry for manufacture for a number of special purposes. The prime one at present is as a catalyst support in the highly effective and long-lived anti-pollution device that fits easily to the exhausts of motor vehicles.

Assessing thick steel plate in the leg of an offshore structure with equipment developed jointly by the Non-Destructive Testing Centre and the Welding Institute.

Fecralloy steels resists corrosion in the temperature range 800° to 1200°C where other steels would corrode. This makes it very suitable for use in the hostile environment in a car exhaust system. In a programme funded by the Department of Industry's chemicals and minerals requirements board, it was discovered how to manufacture Fecralloy steel in the laboratory and then transfer this technology to the steel industry. It could well be a saleable export for Britain as there has been a

Staff of Harwell's chemical emergency centre assisting local emergency services to clean up a chemical spillage.

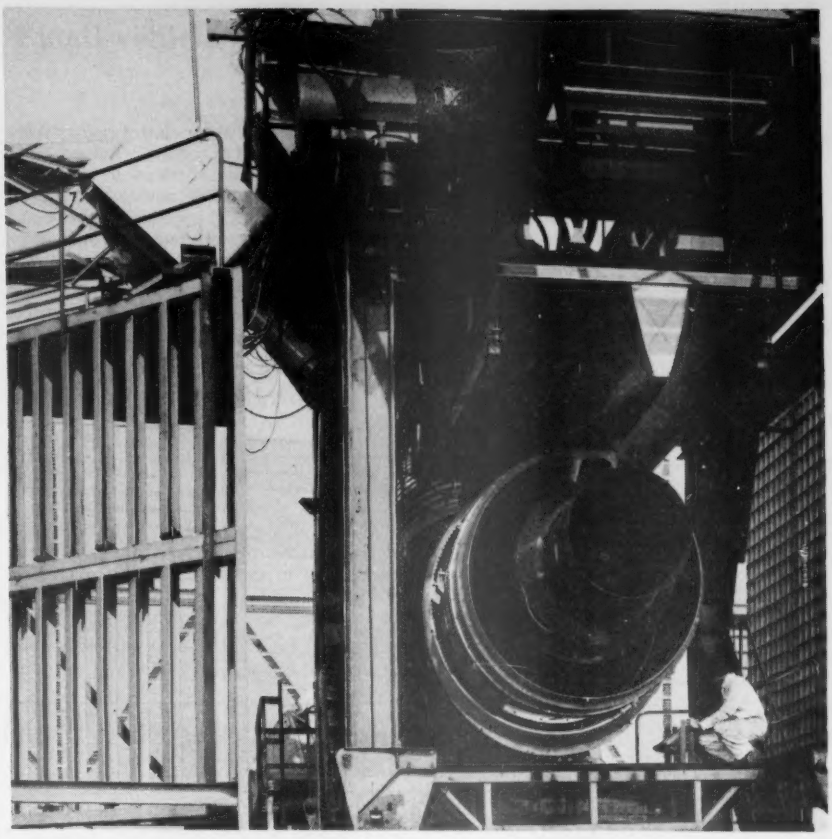
great deal of interest from overseas, particularly the United States.

The environmental aspect of this are obvious: cleaner exhausts mean cleaner air, and it is the quality of the air we breathe that leads to another good example of environmental work that is one of the laboratory's main strengths. The laboratory's environmental and medical sciences division has for many years been monitoring the air for radioactive contamination in and around nuclear plants. A direct spin-off from this work is the contract work being done by this same division for a number of local authorities throughout the country who are worried about levels of pollution in their areas.

Pollution of various sorts is another area of expertise special to Harwell. As a result of many years work in the nuclear field the laboratory has a capacity for dealing with and disposing of hazardous chemicals. The hazardous materials service – part of the environmental safety group – now runs a highly successful commercial programme in this field. Its disposal service carries out regular work for industry, local authorities and other bodies, while the national chemical emergency centre, located at Harwell, keeps a 13 000 document data bank on hazardous materials that is used by emergency services all over the country.

The same organisation also offers consultancy work on disposal and contamination problems and runs an educational and information programme. Recently it held a highly successful seminar on 'Major chemical hazards' attended by 180 representatives from the chemical industry, emergency services, academics and other bodies. One object of that seminar was to discuss ways of ensuring that catastrophes of the Flixborough kind could never happen again. It was a group of scientists who were the forerunners of what is now the environmental safety group who in 1967 helped to tackle some of the decontamination problems presented by the *Torrey Canyon* disaster.

Another commercial service offered by the laboratory with considerable success has been the ability to analyse complex images. A lot of imagery from the United States Landsat satellites has successfully been analysed, providing a great deal of valuable data to a number of organisations.



An RB211 engine on a test bed at a Rolls-Royce factory undergoing dynamic radiography – work for which Harwell's Non-Destructive Testing centre won a Queen's award.

A research programme currently being carried out for British Rail will ultimately provide the British rail network with a system using ultrasonic gauges for instantaneously spotting and recording flaws in the track, such as those that led to the Hither Green accident in south-east London, also in 1967. Currently British Rail is making wide use of a computerised system of track data evaluation for which Harwell did the research and development work. But at present this is slower than the onboard instant readout system that is eventually planned.

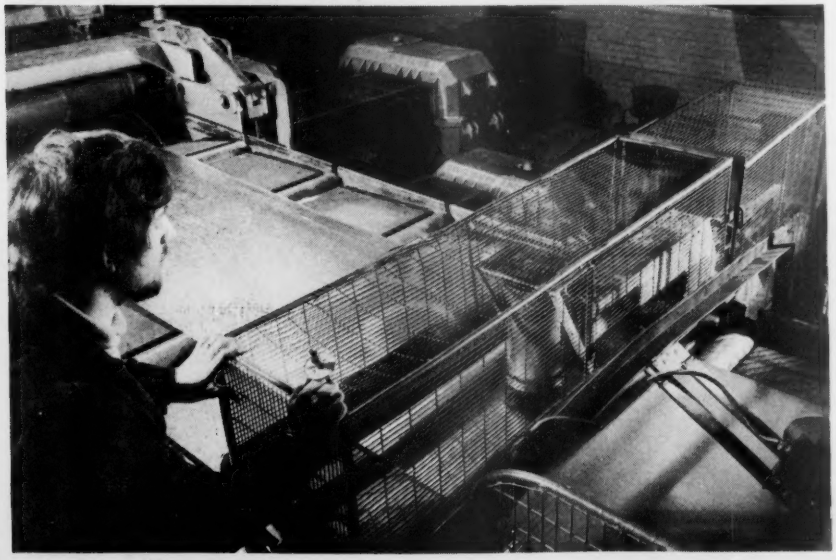
Work of this sort comes under the general overall aegis of the Harwell Nondestructive Testing Centre. This year, the centre won the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement for a programme of research and development it had carried out in conjunction with the aero division of Rolls Royce Ltd on the radiography of jet engines while running. The programme has provided Rolls Royce with a number of vital commercial advantages over its competitors.

The centre offers a number of services to industry. As well as research and development and consultancy they include providing an information service involving a datastore of more than 23 000 non-destructive testing references and making available specialist industrial testing services.

There are really very few of Harwell's services to industry that cannot in some way or other be labelled an 'environmental'. The separation processes service has a name that is self explanatory. The heat transfer and fluid flow service aims to help manufacturers improve the efficiency of their plant with a view to conserving energy. Much the same could be said for the work being done by the Harwell Biochemistry Group which aims to help food manufacturers make better and fuller use of their raw materials.

There is free literature available on most of Harwell's other services to industry. This can be obtained by contacting Dr Peter Iredale, Marketing and Sales Department, at the Harwell Laboratory, Oxfordshire OX21 0RA, tel. Abingdon 24141 ext. 2600.

Harwell designed gamma ray gauge, at the Ebbw Vale works of British Steel, for measuring the thickness of steel strip on the galvanising line.



New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

GEC designs IC specials faster . . .

Custom-made integrated microelectronic circuits can be made in a much shorter timescale than before by a service inaugurated by GEC Semiconductors Ltd. This new capability, called 'Cellmos', enables the customer to design his own integrated circuits using standard 'cells' from GECS's library of circuits.

The customers' choice will not be hampered by other artificial constraints as in uncommitted logic arrays, or strange design techniques as in programmable arrays. From the logic diagram of his breadboard, a custom-made integrated circuit can be fabricated with the minimum effort on the customer's part.

The final cost of such a custom-made integrated circuit is determined by the chip area and size of package. The greater the number of cells, the greater will be the chip area, the larger the package and the higher the cost. However, because of the reduction in timescales and the simplicity of the whole design approach, the overall cost of developing custom large-scale integrated circuits can be significantly reduced for the smaller quantity user.

In operation, the Cellmos facility allows the customer's engineer to design his system in standard 4000 series CMOS logic parts and, if he wants to, he builds a breadboard to prove his prototype. Once this initial work has been done, an accurate copy of the complete logic diagram is created. Each cell, or discrete logic circuit, and its connections are named. From these a list is compiled which defines the logic completely in known terms and represents the full definition of the customer's requirements.

On receipt of this list from the customer, either handwritten, typewritten or in a computer-readable form, GECS will input the data to its computer system and carry out compatibility checks. If waveform definitions are supplied, GECS will run a logic simulation of the circuit and return the results of this simulation to the customer for him to verify that the circuit works as he intended and that the data has been transferred accurately.

Once all this data has been verified by the customer's engineer and approved, it is then released to the Cellmos layout program. This is a facility unique to GECS. The layout program optimises the cell placements and interconnections and then generates two plots, a completed chip layout and any additional information that may have been requested.

At this stage, changes can still be edited into the initial list to correct errors or modify the circuit. If this is done, the procedure would be repeated until the customer's requirement is met. Once the two layout plots are certified correct by the customer's engineer, the layout can be simply translated into magnetic tape format for the preparation of masks on computer-based equipment.

Further information: circle 106

. . . and cuts mask-making time.

GEC Semiconductors Ltd is also offering an expanded and improved service for making the masks used in the production of microelectronic integrated circuits. An installed optical system comprising a David Mann PG3000 pattern generator with a 3095 step and repeat camera will cut the mask-making turnround time by 75 per cent. In addition to this improvement in turnaround time, it is also possible to offer an extra interface to the customers in that the system will accept a magnetic tape input in either metric or English pattern generator format.

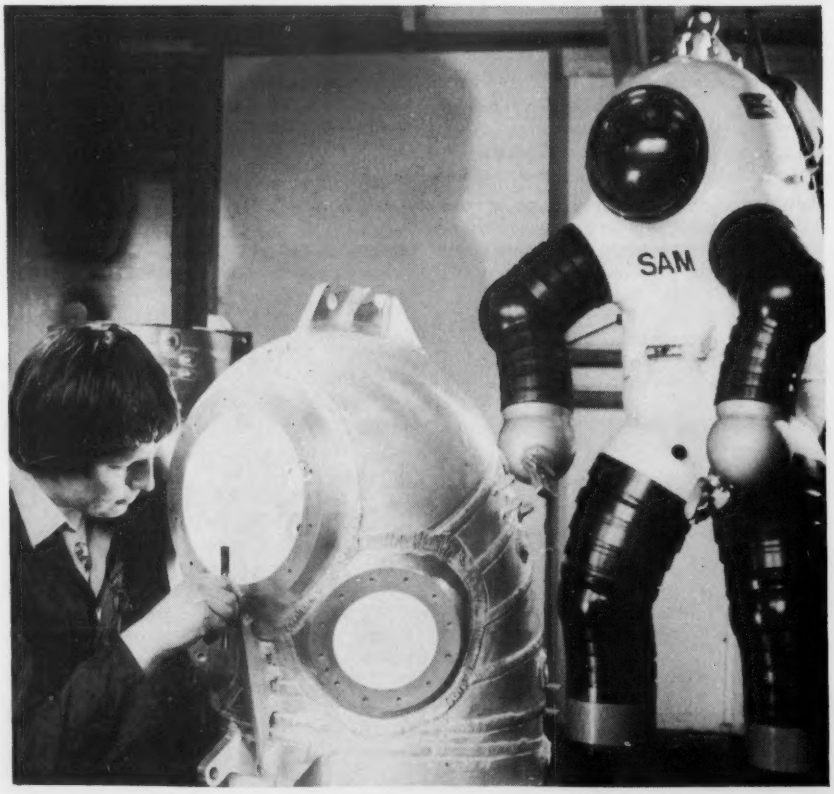
This new pattern generator is computer controlled. It creates a single circuit chip pattern at 10 times magnification of the final required size by 'writing' with a variable-size rectangular light beam on to a high resolution photographic plate. The pattern generator is capable of creating patterns of up to 100 mm² with line thicknesses down to 4 micrometres. The time taken to produce a simple design such as a top layer oxide mask is four or five minutes but, more typically, a complex large-scale integrated circuit design will take a few hours.

The step and repeat camera generates a master mask with a stepped array of final-sized circuit images. It uses wide field ultra-micro

Sam allows deep dives without decompression

Another body for 'Sam' – son of 'Jim', the record-breaking one-atmosphere diving suit – nears completion at the Underwater and Marine Equipment Ltd factory in southern England. When finished the suit will allow divers to work 'uncompressed' at depths of at least 610 m – where pressure is almost 600 tonnes per square metre and is far beyond that envisaged for conventional divers. Like the original version, the new 'Sam' permits divers to surface directly without the need of lengthy decompression. 'Sam' is the next generation of the famous articulated pressure-resistant suits with a closed-circuit oxygen breathing system. The body shape has been revised and is now built in aluminium, while a glass reinforced plastics body is being studied for the future. New joints have also been incorporated for greater mobility.

Further information: circle 107



Nikor optics which allow semiconductor chips of sizes up to 0.25 inch square to be produced when using a 10× reduction lens and chip sizes of up to 0.5 inch square using a 5× reduction lens. The maximum master plate size of 5 inch by 5 inch, which is more than adequate for 4-inch diameter silicon slices.

The new system is completed with two mask processing stations which provide fully automatic 'hands off' processing and ensure a high-volume throughput. These are supported by a hard surface mask processor used primarily for master tooling; that is, for processing master reticles and stepped master masks. The final equipment in the new and updated system is an Ultratech emulsion plate processor. This is a fast, high quality plate processor which has a throughput rate of over 700 plates per hour – a necessary facility to help to meet the heavy demands of the wafer processing lines.

Further information: circle 108

Retrofit nc machine tool better than new

A saving of two-thirds of the cost of buying in a new numerically controlled machine tool for Lucas Aerospace was achieved by a 'retrofit' carried out by Autonumeric Ltd. Spending £20 000 on the refurbishment and up-dating of an existing machine, with a down time of only six weeks, made it as good as new and gave it a significantly improved capability.

The machine, a Newall 1520 jig borer fitted with Airmec N410 and tool rack, had been in constant use for ten years. The system was becoming unreliable and spares difficult to obtain. Machine capability was limited only to point to point positioning and straight line milling. The cost of a new machine with up-to-date controls and linear and circular arc interpolation would be about £60,000 with a delivery of up to nine months.

Autonumeric suggested a retrofit coupled with slideway overhaul and machine mechanics checked and overhauled. Fitting a British made Cincinnati A8-D control system and Inland drives would give higher accuracy and faster machining coupled with linear and circular arc interpolation.

The order was placed with Autonumeric. The company overhauled the machine at its works and fitted the new drives and control system. Inductosyn scales were fitted, improving accuracy from 0.001 in. to 0.0002 in. The updated machine is as good as new and capable of more work and accepting information in inch or metric resultion plus contouring facilities.

Further information: circle 110

Newall jig borer after Autonumeric's retrofit.

Small-vehicle refrigeration service

Newcomers to the vehicle refrigeration business are GRP Products Ltd who provide a vehicle lining and insulation service to the food distribution industry. For small vehicles up to 22.5 m³ GPR Products chose the Hubbard unit as standard although other units can be fitted according to customers' choice. Without refrigeration, GRP Products' standard form of insulated vehicle is designed to hold a pre-frozen load in good condition for 10 hours. As well as being able to offer the complete guaranteed lining, insulation and refrigeration service, GRP Products are now building insulated boxes to customers' requirements with or without refrigeration.

Further information: circle 109

Kit equips Bridgeport millers with digital read-out

Ferranti Ltd's measurement and inspection group has produced a complete kit costing less than £1,000 which will enable users to equip Bridgeport series 1 milling machines with Ferranti Acculin digital read-out systems. Because the slideway displacements are so easy to determine and control on machine-tools equipped with digital read-out systems, productivity is greatly improved and the capital invested in such systems is quickly recovered.

The Acculin kit is comprehensive and contains a 2-axis digital counter and display unit complete with stand; two linear measuring transducer units plus the necessary mounting brackets and screws for attaching them to the machine slideways. All the interconnecting electrical cabling, and comprehensive instructions and installation drawings are included. A special kit has been produced for the Bridgeport knee-type machine because it is probably the most widely used milling machine in service throughout western Europe.

The Bridgeport Acculin system provides a digital display showing slide displacements relative to a pre-set datum along the x and y axes. Displacements are indicated in 0.01 mm units preceded by a + or − sign to indicate direction. A zero-set facility is provided together with datum pre-set, the pre-set value being entered on a group of rotary thumbwheel switches. The thumb switches are shared between the two axes. A metric/inch display can be provided as an optional feature. Units of measurement are 0.01 mm or 0.0005 inches.

The linear transducer comprises a precision steel grating and a self-tracking reading head, both contained within a robust U-section aluminium extrusion. A sealing system completely encloses the reading head and scale within the extrusion to provide maximum protection.

Further information: circle 111

Micro switches provide extra-low noise

Design of a range micro-movement momentary contact switches provides noise free contact after one millisec maximum, with a noise level typically less than −20 dB through more than a million operations, claims its manufacturer, Pressac Ltd.

With a body depth of only 4.38 mm, the switches are fitted with two 1.6 mm diameter pins on 5.08 mm centres for printed circuit board applications. They are in round or square format and several button/body colour combinations are available. Although button travel is only 0.254 mm, the 100 g nominal operation force ensures positive actuation, it is claimed.

Switch rating is ±34 V dc or ac peak, 100 mA; contact resistance is 7.5 milli-ohms nominal, and the temperature range is −20° C to +60° C. Overall body size is from 12 mm square to 16 mm round.

Further information: circle 112

Parliament

Monday, 24 July

Import controls

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, upon what evidence his department based their view that the imposition of selective import controls would result in retaliatory action. Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what representations he had received calling for further import controls.

Mr Dell said that he had received a number of representations calling for further import controls, and had taken action in certain cases. He took the view that a more general policy of import controls would lead to retaliatory action against UK exports because the majority of the UK's major trading partners had the same problems of high unemployment as Britain and would, therefore, be unlikely to acquiesce to restrictions which sought to deal with UK problems at their expense.

Textile imports from Greece

James Lamond (Oldham East) asked what were the United Kingdom imports of cotton yarn and knitted shirts from Greece during the first four months of 1978.

Mr Meacher said that UK imports of cotton yarn and knitted shirts from Greece in the first four months of 1978 were 1192 tonnes and 1 768 000 pieces respectively.

Market entry guarantee scheme

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what was the minimum load which the British Overseas Trade Board would consider for small businesses seeking to enter the export trade making use of the market entry guarantee scheme.

Mr Meacher said that the minimum assistance under the market entry guarantee scheme was £20,000 which implied that the applicant expected to incur eligible costs of at least £40,000 over the years in which the export venture was expected to incur an annual loss.

British Tourist Authority board

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would make a statement on the effect that changes to the membership of the British Tourist Authority emanating from the Scotland Bill would have on the independence of the membership of the British Tourist Authority.

Mr Meacher said that the representatives of the national tourist boards would be in a majority on the board of the British Tourist Authority, as envisaged in the supplementary white paper on devolution, but the size of the board be maintained at its present level. The two independent members would continue to be appointed for their experience and knowledge of affairs generally and not to represent sectoral or regional interests.

Trade policy with NZ

Richard Body (Holland with Boston) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he had received an official invitation to visit New Zealand to discuss trade policy.

Mr Dell said that he had not but that he had been able to discuss trade matters with Mr Talboys, the Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand who was responsible for foreign affairs and overseas trade, twice this year during his visits to London.

Trade with the Commonwealth

David Knox (Leek) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what percentage of imports into the United Kingdom came from Commonwealth countries in each of the past 10 years; and what percentage of exports from the United Kingdom went to Commonwealth countries in each of the past 10 years.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Imports (cif)	22.2	22.1	22.7	21.0	19.0	17.0	14.3	13.6	13.4	12.5
Exports (fob)	21.1	20.4	19.7	20.6	18.5	16.5	16.4	16.3	15.0	14.5

Note: The figures for each of the years 1968 to 1972 exclude Bangladesh for which no separate information is available.

Oil pollution

Ian Gow (Eastbourne) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what further representation he had received about preventing oil pollution of United Kingdom coasts from tankers; James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he had any further statement to make regarding the implementation of the Merchant Shipping Bill; Arthur Blenkinsop (South Shields) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what current action he was taking to reduce the threat of oil pollution from tankers on United Kingdom coasts; and John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what legislative action he proposed to take to deal with the increasing incidence of oil tanker pollution.

Mr Clinton Davis said that he had received a number of representations expressing concern, which he fully shared, about the effects of oil pollution. The government would continue its efforts to develop and bring into effect practical, internationally agreed measures to improve tanker safety and reduce oil pollution. Important provisions in this connection were included in the draft Merchant Shipping Bill which was appended to the recently published White Paper on Action on Safety at Sea. The government proposed to introduce the bill next session. The government would also inform the commons of the results of its stock-taking of contingency arrangements for dealing with oil spills.

Trade with EEC

Dennis Skinner (Bolsover) asked what was the latest available figure for imports and exports to and from the original six EEC countries and the United Kingdom.

Mr Meacher said that UK exports to the original six EEC countries in the second quarter of this year were £2,750 million and UK imports from them were £3,446 million.

Textile and clothing industries

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what draft EEC directives were known to be in the pipeline which would affect the United Kingdom textile and clothing industries.

Mr Meacher said that a number of issues affecting imports of textiles and clothing, from in particular Mediterranean suppliers, were at present under discussion within the EEC. It was not yet clear whether any of these will require community legislation. With regard to issues other than imports, he was not aware of any draft EEC directives which would be of particular concern to the textile and clothing industries.

Passenger car trade

Edwin Wainwright (Dearne Valley) asked how many cars were imported into the United Kingdom for the 12 months ended 30 June 1978 and in each of the preceding four years; and how many were exported during the same period.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

NUMBERS OF PASSENGER MOTOR CARS

	Imported	Exported
July 1973-June 1974	423 382	569 832
July 1974-June 1975	429 641	574 456
July 1975-June 1976	467 820	499 545
July 1976-June 1977	622 866	495 762
July 1977-June 1978	793 640	501 251

Source: UK Overseas Trade Statistics, SITC (R) 732.1 and 732.6, and SITC (R2) 781.0 and 784.1 (part).

Trade in insulation material

Douglas Crawford (Perth and East Perthshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what was his estimate of the total annual costs of the export of general insulation material for loft insulation for use in homes and what was his estimate of the total annual costs of the import of general insulation material for loft insulation for use in homes.

Mr Meacher said that materials for the insulation of lofts in dwelling-houses were not identified in the *Overseas Trade Statistics*. Details of imports and exports in 1977 of mineral insulating materials (SITC rev 1 sub-group 663.5) and of glass fibre (including glass wool), yarns, fabrics, and articles made therefrom (SITC rev 1 sub-group 664.94), which could be used for a variety of purposes, are given in the 1977 annual edition of the *Overseas Trade Statistics* of the United Kingdom (tables III and IV for imports and tables V and VI for exports).

Textile trade with Cyprus

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked what quantities of trousers, blouses and dresses were imported from Cyprus in 1975, 1976, 1977 and to the latest convenient date in 1978; and what percentage of the United Kingdom market this represented.

Mr Meacher said that the number of trousers (including jeans), blouses and dresses, both woven and knitted, imported from Cyprus, and their estimated shares of the respective United Kingdom market were as follows:

	Number in thousands	Estimated share of UK market (per cent)
Trousers (including jeans)		
1975	20.9	*
1976	54.4	0.1
1977	253.7	0.3
1978 1st qtr	68.8	0.3
Blouses		
1975	1.1	*
1976	13.2	*
1977	98.9	0.3
1978 1st qtr	68.1	0.5
Dresses		
1975	1.5	*
1976	45.4	0.1
1977	160.4	0.4
1978 1st qtr	139.1	1.3

* Less than 0.1 per cent.
The UK market is defined as total sales by UK manufacturers, employing 25 or more people, less exports plus imports.

Tokyo round discussions

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would make a statement on the current position of textiles and clothing products in the Tokyo round discussions.

Mr Meacher said that the statement on the current status of the Tokyo round negotiations, agreed by the major trading nations in Geneva on 13 July, noted that in some important sectors further tariff negotiations were required. This included the textile and clothing sectors where the community was seeking a substantial improvement in the initial American offer on a number of products (in particular the very high import duty on woven wool cloth) and reductions in the excessively high tariffs imposed in this sector by the more advanced developing countries.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Imports of chipboard

Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what action he had taken following the recent representations which he had had about the effect of imports on the chipboard industry and A. J. Beith (Berwick upon Tweed) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what representations he has made to the European commission about the dumping of chipboard on the United Kingdom market.

Mr Meacher replied that price undertakings had already been given by a number of suppliers and his officials were in regular contact with the commission about their observance. The attention of the commission had also been drawn to the low prices in intra-community trade and had been urged to find ways of remedying the problem.

Airport sites in south-east

Alan Haselhurst (Saffron Walden) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether, at the meeting convened by his department on 20 June, there had been discussion about future airport sites in the south-east and if a list was to be prepared for future consideration.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the purpose of the meeting on 20 June had been to discuss the setting up of an advisory committee on airports policy and its programme of work. There had been no consideration of specific airport sites but his department had undertaken to prepare a note on the longer term airport options for the south-east as a basis for further discussion.

European air traffic control

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what steps he was now taking to bring together the Civil Aviation Authority and similar bodies in the EEC, and throughout Europe, urgently to discuss with the international air transport association the European civil aviation conference and airlines proper pre-flight planning to cover scheduled as well as charter flights to avoid excess air traffic in the Mediterranean region in the short term, and ensure adequate equipment and personnel for proper air traffic control in the long term.

Mr Clinton Davis said that no such steps were necessary. The national air traffic services already participated in Eurocontrol; and the UK also took part in the European air navigation planning group which had a wider geographical coverage. Within the requirements of air traffic control scheduling was a matter for the airlines and the travel trade.

Illegal discounting of airfares

Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked if the departmental working party on illegal discounting of air fares could report in the near future.

Mr Clinton Davis said that he expected to receive the report before the end of the summer recess.

Code of conduct for South Africa

Ray Whitney (Wycombe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if his expectation, on 25 May 1978, that the governments of other members of the European community would request their national companies operating in South Africa to publish detailed annual reports similar to those required of British companies in accordance with annex 3 of Command Paper 7233, had been fulfilled.

Mr Dell replied that all member governments of the Nine had adopted the text of the code of conduct and had commended it to their employers organisations, but no others had so far issued detailed guidance, comparable with annex 3 of Cmnd 7233, for the contents of companies' reports. He would continue to impress upon the UK's partners in the Nine strong views in favour of a common reporting format and common reporting dates.

Protection of steel industry

Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would list the actions taken during the last four years to protect the special steel industry from unfair foreign competition.

Mr Dell said that a number of measures had been taken at national and community level. Measures taken so far included the following:

An anti-dumping duty imposed (and still in force) on imports of stainless steel bars from Spain in October 1976.

An investigation into the dumping of tool steel bars from Sweden (terminated with the agreement of the UK industry in the light of market developments in June 1977).

An investigation into the dumping of tool steel and high speed steel bars from Austria (terminated following the receipt of assurances satisfactory to the UK industry).

Negotiation by the European commission of agreements on price and volume with most of the major suppliers of steel to the community (part of the package of measures designed to assist the steel industry announced in December 1977). These agreements cover a number of special steels as well as basic products.

The community's base price scheme for steel imports. This includes some special steels in its coverage: it applies to countries with which the community has not made voluntary restraint agreements.

Medical facilities on ferries

Edward Lyons (Bradford West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether he was satisfied with the standard of medical facilities on British ferry boats plying between Great Britain and the continent.

Mr Clinton said that a number of requirements related to medical supplies, officers' first aid certificates and accommodation for the sick applied and he had no reason to suppose that they were not generally complied with.

Mowing and grinding machines

John Ellis (Brigg and Scunthorpe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what effect he expected EEC directives to standardise noise levels on mowing and grinding machines would have on imports and exports.

Mr Meacher said that if these proposals became directives without further amendments, the effect on UK trade might well be negative, but the UK would seek to change it to avoid this.

British Shipbuilders' forecast

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked if British Shipbuilders' forecast of loss assumed that intervention fund subsidies would be available in the current year; and how much was assumed to be available; and whether in his consultations with British Shipbuilders' on their future finance, the size of their future labour force was considered, having regard to the lack of world demand for ships and the gross over-capacity of the world shipbuilding industry.

Mr Huckfield said that the corporation's tentative estimate was not based on any specific amount of intervention fund support. His department had not discussed with the corporation the manpower projections underlying the corporation's forecast of loss for this financial year.

Industrial action at PO

Cranley Onslow (Woking) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what representations he had received concerning the effect of the industrial action of members of the Post Office Engineering Union, in banning work on new telephone installations; and what estimate he had formed of the effect of this upon the import and export trade.

Mr Huckfield said that it was for the Post Office to estimate how many people were affected by the industrial action taken by members of the Post Office Engineering Union but his department had received several letters drawing attention to the fact that the dispute had affected certain people or groups of people. The secretary of state was very much aware that an early settlement of this dispute would be of benefit to all concerned and had this in mind when asking Lord McCarthy to undertake his special review of the matter. That review was being pursued urgently.

Regional assistance

Alick Buchanan-Smith (North Angus and Mearns) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what was the total regional assistance to industry per head of employees in the assisted areas in England for the latest available year.

Mr Cryer said that total estimated gross expenditure on regional assistance to industy in the English assisted areas was as follows:

1976-77 financial year	£388.5 million
Total number of employees in the English assisted areas (mid-1976 estimate)	6.8 million
Expenditureper employee in the English assisted areas in the 1976-77 financial year	£57.1

The expenditure figure was at out-turn prices and included payments of regional assistance to nationalised industries. The major items included were regional development grants, selective financial assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972, local employment act assistance, regional employment premium, and the investment grant differential (estimated) in favour of the assisted areas.

New energy resources

Mr Grimond (Orkney and Zetland) asked what examination had been made of the recent experiments by Dr John Wilson of the Heriot-Watt University into the growing of silicon on stainless steel plates with a view to tapping the sun's energy; and what contribution this might make to energy resources.

Mr Cryer said that his department was aware of this work which was being funded and monitored by the science research council up until September 1980 at a cost of £31,975. Whilst the ultimate objective of the work was to evaluate the application of the technique to the development of solar cells, it was not possible to say at present whether there would be any contribution to energy resources.

United Builders' Merchants

Ben Ford (Bradford North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what assistance was given by his department to the firm United Builders' Merchants.

Mr Cryer said that companies within the United Builders' Merchants Group were eligible for regional development grants, regional selective assistance and assistance through the various schemes under section 8 of the 1972 Industry Act on the same basis as any other company.

Footwear industry scheme

Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if, in view of its success, he would consider extending the consultancy service introduced under the footwear industry scheme beyond groups employing 500 workers.

Mr Williams said that he had received recently representations from the Nedo footwear industry working party about amending the consultancy provisions of the footwear industry scheme. He was giving this careful consideration and hoped to make a statement in the near future.

Electricity Consumer's Council

Iain Sproat (Aberdeen South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what had been the total cost of running the Electricity Consumers' Council including all main constituent costs of any sort whatsoever such as expenditure on its own programmes, wages, rent, heating, lighting and maintenance, in the last 12 months for which figures were available; and what were the projected costs for 1978-79.

Mr Maclennan replied that the total cost of the Electricity Consumers' Council from its establishment on 31 October 1977 to 31 March 1978 was £18,000; the estimate for 1978-79 was £96,000.

Tuesday, 25 July

Concorde landing rights

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make a statement on the result of recent negotiations concerning landing rights of Concorde within the United States of America.

Mr Clinton Davis said that under the SST noise regulations announced on 27 June, the US government would permit the 16 Concordes in the current production programme to operate to US airports, although airport proprietors continued to have the right to limit or ban aircraft operations at their airports through reasonable, non-discriminatory noise rules. Following representations by his department, on 13 July the Civil Aeronautics Board announced its intention to approve the agreement under which Braniff would operate a British Airways Concorde on from Washington to Dallas. However, this agreement could not be effective until a US type certificate of airworthiness had been granted and a number of other legal obstacles resolved.

Concorde overflights

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make a statement on the negotiations with the Malaysian government to allow Concorde to overfly the Malacca Straits.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that during talks with a Malaysian delegation in London on 24–25 May, answers were provided to the outstanding questions about Concorde's effect on Malaysia's environment and his department asked that the Concorde service be allowed to resume as soon as possible. A general election in Malaysia had since intervened. The department was now considering how best to achieve an early favourable decision.

Rearch expenditure

George Park (Coventry North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how much had been spent by his department on research in the last four years.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following information:

£,000

	1974–75	1975–76	1976–77	1977–78
Economic research	0	0	3	5
Civil aviation	179	233	511	393
Marine	223	264	234	302
	402	497	748	700

Public money for private companies

Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would make the granting of public money to private companies conditional on reaching a planning agreement.

Mr Cryer said that section 21(1) of the Industry Act 1975 provided an incentive to conclude a planning agreement in that the levels of certain forms of financial assistance could be guaranteed for the period of the agreement. To make the granting of government assistance to private companies generally conditional on reaching a planning agreement was not the policy stated in the white paper 'The Regeneration of British Industry'. However the white paper did state that planning agreements would 'also provide a securer and more coherent basic than has existed in the past for ensuring that government financial assistance is deployed where it will be most effectively used.' This remained government policy.

Fireclay reserves

Mr T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked for an estimate of the reserves of fireclay in the United Kingdom and the percentage of the total that was associated with opencast coal mining operations in the United Kingdom.

Mr Cryer replied that there were large resources of fireclay in the UK but the government had no estimate of how much there was. A significant part of these large resources was associated with coal that could be mined opencast and this was an important source of the UK's fireclay production. The department was considering a request by the National Federation of Clay Industries Ltd for the Institute of Geological Sciences to undertake a paper study of the resources and use of fireclay in this country.

West midlands

Bruce George (Walsall South) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would list by standard industrial classification order those firms in the west midlands region granted industrial development certificates for the years 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978 to date.

Mr Cryer said that applications for industrial development certificates were normally made in confidence and information concerning them, unlike offers of financial assistance which were published in *Trade and Industry*, including the names of the firms could not be disclosed. The following table provided an analysis by standard industrial classification of the certificates granted in the west midlands region:

	Standard industrial Classification	1975	1976	1977	Jan–May 1978
II	Mining and quarrying	1	1	1	nil
III	Food, drink and tobacco	11	12	10	2
IV	Coal and petroleum products	2	nil	nil	nil
V	Chemicals and allied industries	5	14	7	3
VI	Metal manufacture	42	30	23	12
VII	Mechanical engineering	49	55	29	16
VIII	Instrument engineering	1	nil	2	nil
IX	Electrical engineering	19	13	12	3
XI	Vehicles	11	27	25	3
XII	Metal goods not elsewhere specified	51	42	40	18
XIII	Textiles	3	3	3	1
Xiv	Leather, leather goods and fur	1	1	nil	nil
XV	Clothing and footware	1	1	3	nil
XVI	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement etc	16	24	15	12
XVII	Timber, furniture etc	10	13	6	2
XVIII	Paper, printing and publishing	8	6	7	6
XIX	Other manufacturing industries	21	14	36	21
XX	Construction	1	4	4	nil
XXI	Gas, electricity and water	1	nil	1	nil
XXII	Transport and communication	2	4	1	2
XXIII	Distributive trades	9	9	5	6
XXIV	Insurance, banking, finance and business services	1	nil	nil	nil
XXV	Professional and scientific services	nil	1	nil	1
XXVI	Miscellaneous services	11	7	nil	1
XXVII	Public administration and defence	nil	nil	2	nil
	Total	277	281	232	109

Industrial development certificates

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many industrial development certificates had been granted and refused for schemes of 30 000 square feet and over in England and Wales in each of the past five years.

Mr Cryer answered that the information sought was not readily available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost. The following table showed the number of Industrial Development Certificates granted and refused for schemes of 15 000 sq ft and over in England and Wales:

Year	Granted	Refused
1973	1 757	73
1974	1 243	57
1975	860	16
1976	1 062	5
1977	1 167	8
1978 (January to May)	551	4

Steel production since 1948

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish a table showing crude steel production in the Untied Kingdom for every year since 1948, together with the percentage share of world output this represents and the comparative figures for the United States of America, France, West Germany, Italy and Japan.

Mr Huckfield gave the following information:

CRUDE STEEL PRODUCTION 1948–77

	United Kingdom		USA		France		West Germany		Italy		Japan	
	mn tonnes	% Share of world	mn tonnes	% Share of world	mn tonnes [2]	% Share of world	mn tonnes [3]	% Share of world	mn tonnes	% Share of world	mn tonnes	% Share of world
1948	15.1	9.7	80.4	51.5	8.5	5.5	5.6	3.6	2.1	1.4	1.7	1.1
1949	15.8	9.9	70.7	44.2	10.9	6.8	9.2	5.8	2.1	1.3	3.1	1.9
1950	16.6	8.7	87.8	46.2	10.6	5.6	12.1	6.4	2.4	1.3	4.8	2.3
1951	15.9	7.5	95.4	45.2	12.4	5.9	13.5	6.4	3.1	1.5	6.5	3.1
1952	16.7[1]	7.9	84.5	39.9	13.7	6.5	15.8	7.5	3.5	1.7	7.0	3.3
1953	17.9	7.6	101.2	43.1	12.7	5.4	15.4	6.6	3.5	1.5	7.7	3.3
1954	18.8	8.4	80.1	35.6	13.4	6.0	17.4	7.7	4.2	1.9	7.8	3.5
1955	20.1	7.4	106.2	38.9	15.8	5.8	21.3	7.8	5.4	2.0	9.4	3.4
1956	21.0	7.4	104.5	36.8	16.8	5.9	23.2	8.2	5.9	2.1	11.1	3.9
1957	22.0	7.5	102.3	34.9	17.6	6.0	24.5	8.4	6.8	2.3	12.6	4.3
1958	19.9[1]	7.4	77.3	28.7	18.1	6.7	22.8	8.5	6.3	2.3	12.1	4.5
1959	20.5	6.9	84.8	28.4	18.8	6.3	25.8	8.6	6.8	2.3	16.6	5.6
1960	24.7	7.4	90.1	26.9	17.3	5.2	34.1	10.2	8.2	2.5	22.1	6.6
1961	22.4	6.4	88.9	25.3	17.6	5.0	33.5	9.5	9.1	2.6	28.3	8.1
1962	20.8	5.8	89.2	24.8	17.2	4.8	32.6	9.1	9.8	2.7	27.5	7.6
1963	22.9	5.9	99.1	25.6	17.6	4.6	31.6	8.2	10.2	2.6	31.5	8.1
1964	26.7[1]	6.2	115.2	26.5	19.8	4.6	37.3	8.6	9.8	2.3	39.8	9.2
1965	27.4	6.0	119.0	26.2	19.6	4.3	36.8	8.1	12.7	2.8	41.2	9.1
1966	24.7	5.2	121.6	25.7	19.6	4.1	35.3	7.5	13.6	2.9	47.8	10.1
1967	24.3	4.9	115.1	23.2	19.7	4.0	36.7	7.4	15.9	3.2	62.2	12.5
1968	26.3	5.0	118.9	22.5	20.4	3.9	41.2	7.8	17.0	3.2	66.9	12.7
1969	26.8	4.7	128.0	22.4	22.5	3.9	45.3	7.9	16.4	2.9	82.2	14.4
1970	28.3[1]	4.8	119.1	20.1	23.8	4.0	45.0	7.6	17.3	2.9	93.3	15.7
1971	24.2	4.2	109.1	18.8	22.9	4.0	40.3	7.0	17.5	3.0	88.6	15.3
1972	25.3	4.0	120.7	19.2	24.1	3.8	43.7	7.0	19.8	3.2	96.9	15.4
1973	26.6	3.8	136.5	19.7	25.3	3.7	49.5	7.1	21.0	3.0	119.3	17.2
1974	22.4	3.2	132.0	18.7	27.0	3.8	53.2	7.5	23.8	3.4	117.1	16.6
1975	20.2	3.1	105.9	16.4	21.5	3.3	40.4	6.2	21.8	3.4	102.3	15.8
1976	22.3	3.3	116.3	17.2	23.2	3.4	42.4	6.3	23.4	3.5	107.4	15.9
1977 p	20.4	3.0	113.2	16.8	22.1	3.3	39.0	5.8	23.3	3.5	102.4	15.2

[1] 53 week year. [2] Includes production in the Saar 1948–59. [3] Includes production in the Sarr from 1960 onwards.
Sources: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; Statistical Office European Communities; Iron and Steel Board 1957 Special Report.

Car production since 1948

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish a table showing car production in the United Kingdom for every year since 1948, together with the percentage share of world output this represents and the comparative figures for the United States of America, France, West Germany, Italy and Japan.

Mr Huckfield gave the following information:

CAR PRODUCTION 1948–77

	United Kingdom		USA		France		West Germany		Italy		Japan [1]	
	'000s	% Share of world	'000s	% Share of world	'000s	% Share of world	'000s	% Share of world	'000s	% Share of world	'000s	% Share of world
1948	335	[2]	3 912	[2]	100	[2]	30	[2]	44	[2]	[2]	[2]
1949	412	[2]	5 119	[2]	188	[2]	104	[2]	65	[2]	[2]	[2]
1950	523	[2]	6 666	[2]	257	[2]	216	[2]	101	[2]	[2]	[2]
1951	476	[2]	5 338	[2]	320	[2]	267	[2]	119	[2]	[2]	[2]
1952	448	[2]	4 337	[2]	370	[2]	301	[2]	114	[2]	[2]	[2]
1953	595	[2]	6 117	[2]	371	[2]	369	[2]	143	[2]	[2]	[2]
1954	769	[2]	5 559	[2]	444	[2]	518	[2]	181	[2]	[2]	[2]
1955	898	[2]	7 920	[2]	561	[2]	762	[2]	231	[2]	[2]	[2]
1956	708	[2]	5 816	[2]	663	[2]	911	[2]	280	[2]	[2]	[2]
1957	861	[2]	6 113	[2]	738	[2]	1 040	[2]	319	[2]	[2]	[2]
1958	1 052	[2]	4 258	[2]	939	[2]	1 307	[2]	369	[2]	51	[2]
1959	1 190	[2]	5 591	[2]	1 128	[2]	1 503	[2]	471	[2]	79	[2]
1960	1 353	[2]	6 675	[2]	1 175	[2]	1 817	[2]	595	[2]	165	[2]
1961	1 004	[2]	5 543	[2]	1 064	[2]	1 904	[2]	694	[2]	250	[2]
1962	1 249	[2]	6 933	[2]	1 340	[2]	2 109	[2]	878	[2]	269	[2]
1963	1 608	[2]	7 638	[2]	1 521	[2]	2 414	[2]	1 105	[2]	408	[2]
1964	1 868	[2]	7 739	[2]	1 390	[2]	2 650	[2]	1 029	[2]	580	[2]
1965	1 722	9.0	9 306	48.6	1 423	7.4	2 734	14.3	1 134	5.9	696	3.6
1966	1 604	8.3	8 598	44.7	1 786	9.3	2 830	14.7	1 282	6.7	878	4.6
1967	1 552	8.6	7 437	41.1	1 777	9.8	2 296	12.7	1 439	8.0	1 376	7.6
1968	1 816	8.4	8 849	41.0	1 833	8.5	2 862	13.3	1 545	7.2	2 056	9.5
1969	1 717	7.6	8 224	36.4	2 168	9.6	3 313	14.6	1 477	6.5	2 611	11.5
1970	1 641	7.3	6 550	29.1	2 458	10.9	3 528	15.7	1 720	7.6	3 179	14.1
1971	1 742	6.6	8 584	32.7	2 694	10.3	3 697	14.1	1 701	6.5	3 718	14.2
1972	1 921	7.0	8 828	32.1	2 993	10.9	3 522	12.8	1 732	6.3	4 022	14.6
1973	1 747	5.9	9 668	32.6	3 202	10.8	3 650	12.3	1 823	6.1	4 471	15.1
1974	1 534	6.0	7 325	28.9	2 699	10.6	2 840	11.2	1 631	4.6	3 932	15.5
1975	1 268	5.2	6 717	27.5	2 546	10.4	2 908	11.9	1 349	5.5	4 568	18.7
1976	1 333	4.9	8 498	30.9	2 980	10.8	3 186	11.6	1 471	5.4	5 028	18.3
1977	1 328	..	9 214	..	3 092	..	3 791	..	1 440	..	5 431	..

[1] Includes 3-wheelers [2] World production, and therefore percentage share, not available for these years. Separate figures for Japan not available before 1958.
Source: Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders

Electrical goods from eastern Europe

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked about the import of electrical goods from eastern Europe, in the light of the recent decision of electric motor manufacturers in the common market territories to make joint representations to the common market commission about this matter.

Mr Meacher replied that imports of electric motors in the range 1 hp to 100 hp from eastern bloc countries took under 1 per cent of the UK market in 1977. The British government was assisting the UK manufacturers' association with its contribution to a community anti-dumping application for submission to the EEC commission.

Textile industry

Edward Lyons (Bradford West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what plans he had for mitigating the effect of the new scale of effluent treatment charges on the wool-scouring section of the textile industry.

Mr Cryer said that a report by a working party of the Yorkshire water authority and the wool textile delegation on the effects of charges for water and trade effluent treatment on the wool textile industry in Yorkshire was being considered by his department and the Department of the Environment. The working party was set up at the instigation of the Departments of Industry and Environment following representations by the industry. The report was being considered urgently and a statement would be made on its recommendations as soon as consideration was complete.

Aid to shipbuilding and the EEC

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would undertake to resist any attempts by the common market to reduce United Kingdom government aid to the shipbuilding industry under the provisions of articles 92 to 94 of the treaty of Rome.

Mr Huckfield replied that it was the intention of the government to continue to provide assistance to the shipbuilding industry. The EEC fourth directive on aids to shipbuilding, whose adoption on 4 April 1978 was supported by the UK government, provided the framework within which such assistance may be given.

Wednesday, 26 July

Overseas projects board

Michael Latham (Melton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what specific action had been taken, or recommendations made, regarding construction exports by the overseas projects board of the British Overseas Trade Board since the Secretary of State for the Environment announced on 14 February that the construction exports advisory board had been disbanded.

Mr Dell replied that since the overseas projects board assumed, in part, the responsibilities of the construction exports advisory board it had considered a number of issues affecting the project industry as a whole. It has not so far considered, or made recommendations on, any matters relating specifically to construction exports but was ready to do so if the need arose.

Cost of agricultural machinery

Hamish Watt (Banff) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what had been the overall percentage rise in the cost of agricultural machinery over the past two years.

Mr Huckfield said that between June 1976 and June 1978, the wholesale price index for home-produced agricultural machinery sold on the UK market, excluding VAT, rose by 43½per cent on provisional figures.

Shirts from Greece

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the agreed quota figure for imported knitted shirts from Greece for 1978; and how many knitted shirts from Greece had been imported so far in 1978.

Mr Meacher replied that the EEC commission secured assurances from representatives of the Greek textile insutry that their exports of knitted shirts to the UK in 1978 would not exceed 955 000 pieces. In the first five months of 1978, as a result of the absence of a safeguards clause in the EEC-Greece agreement, UK imports amounted to 2 181 000 pieces. The commission had therefore imposed quantitative restrictions on imports of this product into the UK as from 7 July.

Price of foods and articles

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether he would publish as much detailed information as may be readily available, giving lists of foods and articles which had fallen in price due to the reduction in inflation to 7.4 per cent in July 1978, as compared with similar figures during the past four years.

Mr Maclennan said that the reduction in the annual increase in the retail prices index to 7.4 per cent in June 1978 reflected primarily a slackening in the average rate of increase in prices rather than any general marked reduction in price levels. Of those items for which average retail prices were published each month in the *Department of Employment Gazette*, prices were lower in mid-June than in mid-May for certain cuts of lamb, tomatoes, canned (red) salmon, standard quality margarine, eggs, coffee and tea.

Scottish consumer advice centres

Margaret Bain (East Dunbartonshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was the current total number of consumer advice centres in each Scottish local government region at the latest available date; and how this compared with each of the last eight years.

Mr Maclennan replied that there were presently a total of 15 consumer advice centres in Scotland. Although a consumer advice service had been offered from some regional council premises before 1976, there were no consumer advice centres in Scotland before that date. Regional distribution for the three years in question were as follows:

	Number of centres		
Regional council	1978-79	1977-78	1976-77
Strathclyde	10	7	6
Lothian	2	2	1
Grampian	1	1	1
Western Isles	1	0	0
Shetland Isles	1	1	1
Total	15	11	9

Margaret Bain (East Dunbartonshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection which Scottish regional councils had refused to take up 100 per cent grants, offered by his department, for the establishment of new consumer advice centres.

Mr Maclennan said that the following Scottish regional councils did not operate consumer advice centres and had not applied for government grant aid:

Highland Regional Council; Tayside Regional Council; Central Regional Council; Borders Regional Council; Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council; Fife Regional Council.

Live exports to the continent

John Watkinson (West Gloucestershire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the approximate present value of live exports to the continent. He also asked how many: (a) sheep, (b) calves and (c) live cows currently were being exported live to the continent and what were the figures over each of the last 12 months.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

ANIMALS [1] EXPORTED TO EEC COUNTRIES [2]

	Sheep		Calves		Adult cattle	
	Number	Value (£'000)	Number	Value (£'000)	Number	Value (£'000)
1977						
June	8 168	212	20 339	1 465	46	18
July	11 092	286	27 828	1 974	48	22
August	13 489	331	39 377	3 071	279	125
September	24 863	567	60 931	4 928	284	112
October	14 442	332	57 058	4 699	558	212
November	18 327	453	40 553	3 314	189	61
December	20 043	495	41 136	3 504	39	15
1978						
January	28 104	698	33 331	2 805	124	56
February	22 491	572	27 058	2 285	592	226
March	21 775	551	24 681	2 112	831	363
April	29 291	777	20 636	1 764	525	200
May	28 879	792	24 237	2 213	98	47

[1] Other than for breeding or dairy purposes. [2] Other than the Irish Republic.

British trade marks and Japan

George Park (Coventry North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if any specific results had emerged from the representations made to the Japanese government regarding the registration of British geographical names as trade marks.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that over the years representations had been made by HM government in Japan about the registration of geographical names by firms in Japan with varying degrees of success, but the problem had continued. It was one which was not confined to the UK but also affects its community partners. In October 1977 the EEC made strong representations regarding the matter to the Japanese government and received a sympathetic response. However, discussions between the community and the government of Japan on the whole question of the registration by the Japanese of geographic names as trade marks were to continue, and would take into account revised regulations that became effective in June 1978.

Accidents to fishermen

John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull East) asked how many British fishermen had died an accidental death in British-registered fishery vessels for each of the years since 1960.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following figures:

TOTAL ACCIDENTAL DEATHS ON BRITISH-REGISTERED FISHING VESSELS

Year	
1961	30
1962	44
1963	24
1964	30
1965	47
1966	33
1967	20
1968	84
1969	30
1970	23
1971	26
1972	23
1973	28
1974	73
1975	29
1976	31
1977	9 [1]

[1] The 1977 figure is for deep sea trawlers only – the figure for other fishing vessels is not yet available.

US exports administration act

George Rodgers (Chorley) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what action he was taking on the extraterritorial application of recent United States anti-boycott legislation.

Mr Dell said that he assumed that the questioner was referring to the recent amendments to the US export administration act. The regulations implementing these amendments claimed to apply to certain activities of those companies incorporated in the UK which were controlled by a company incorporated in the USA, even if those activities took place outside the United States. The government was concerned at this extraterritorial aspect of the US regulations, which in its view infringed the jurisdiction of the UK and could have an adverse effect on UK trade and employment. The UK position had been made clear to the US government, and his department was discussing with United States representatives how to mitigate the effects of these regulations on UK companies. Any UK company which believed that it might be affected by those regulations, should therefore contact his department as soon as possible.

Consumer prices; food prices

John Moore (Croydon Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would publish a table showing for the EEC as a whole, for each present member state of the EEC, the United States of America and Japan in: (a) each year since 1970 and (b) each quarter since 1974 the percentage increase or decrease, after seasonal adjustment when appropriate, over the previous year or corresponding quarter in the previous year all consumer prices and food prices.

Mr Maclennan said that the percentage changes, as requested, were set out in the following tables. The information had been given for the nine countries of the EEC throughout, although Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom were not members of the community until 1973. Because of differences in coverage, methodology and timing, between the consumer price indices for individual countries, the figures were not strictly comparable. In addition, comparisons of increases in retail food prices were further complicated in that the inclusion of alcoholic drink and tobacco varied between countries.

Thursday, 27 July

Food prices

Giles Shaw (Pudsey) asked what proportion of the 104.9 per cent, increase in food prices between 1974 and 1978 was due to membership of the EEC.

Mr Maclennan said that between mid-January 1973 and mid-June 1978 the retail food index had increased as follows:

	Overall increase (per cent)	Per cent increase on same month a year earlier
January 1974	20.1	20.1
January 1975	42.1	18.3
January 1976	78.1	25.4
January 1977	119.9	23.5
January 1978	135.6	7.1
June 1978	148.3	6.7

It was not possible to identify, after the event, the effect of the CAP separately from all other factors affecting food prices. However, it was estimated that the additional cost of purchasing food at CAP rather than world prices currently accounts for less than 10 per cent of the overall increase in food prices since February 1974. This estimate clearly depended on assumptions about the prices at which food could at present be purchased if the UK were not a member of the EEC. The effects of EEC membership on food prices at any time depended on the relative levels of CAP and world prices, which fluctuated over time. In 1974 and 1975, for example, world prices tended to exceed CAP prices, and the effects of membership on food prices were then negligible. It was one of the government's objectives for the CAP to ensure that support prices took greater account of world price levels.

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was his estimate commodity by commodity of the extent by which the various green pound devaluations of the spring had so far increased or reduced food prices for the United Kingdom consumer.

CONSUMER PRICES – ALL ITEMS

% changes on previous year

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Belgium [1]	4.0	4.3	5.5	7.0	12.7	12.7	9.2	7.1
Denmark	5.8	5.8	6.6	9.3	15.3	9.6	9.1	11.2
France	5.3	5.3	6.1	7.3	13.7	11.7	9.6	9.8
Germany	3.4	5.3	5.5	6.9	7.0	6.0	4.5	3.9
Ireland	8.2	8.9	8.7	11.3	17.0	20.9	18.0	13.6
Italy	5.0	4.8	5.7	10.8	19.1	17.0	16.8	18.4
Luxembourg [2 3]	4.6	4.7	5.2	6.1	9.6	10.7	9.8	6.7
Netherlands	3.6	7.5	7.8	8.0	9.6	10.2	8.9	6.4
UK (RPI)	6.4	9.4	7.1	9.2	16.1	24.2	16.5	15.8
USA	5.9	4.3	3.3	6.2	11.0	9.1	5.8	6.5
Japan	7.6	6.1	4.5	11.7	24.5	11.8	9.3	8.1

% change on same quarter a year earlier

	1974				1975				1976				1977				1978	
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr
Belgium [1]	8.4	11.5	14.6	16.0	15.3	13.5	11.4	11.1	10.3	9.5	9.1	7.9	7.7	7.4	6.9	6.4	5.7	
Denmark	13.9	14.6	16.2	16.3	13.5	11.5	9.4	4.6	6.4	8.3	8.0	13.1	10.9	10.1	11.1	12.5	12.6	
France	11.3	13.6	14.5	15.0	14.0	12.1	11.0	9.9	9.6	9.4	9.6	9.9	9.0	9.8	9.9	9.2	9.2	
Germany	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.4	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.6	5.3	4.9	4.2	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.1	
Ireland	13.4	16.3	17.9	20.0	23.8	24.4	18.9	16.8	16.1	16.2	18.9	20.6	16.7	14.0	13.5	10.8	8.2	
Italy	14.5	16.4	20.6	24.7	22.6	19.7	15.1	11.6	12.2	16.1	17.1	21.1	21.7	18.9	18.5	15.2	12.8	
Luxembourg [2 3]	7.9	8.7	10.2	11.2	10.7	10.4	10.7	11.2	10.9	10.3	9.6	8.4	8.1	7.4	6.4	5.0	3.4	
Netherlands	8.7	8.8	9.8	10.9	10.5	10.3	10.6	9.5	9.1	9.6	8.2	8.5	7.5	6.6	6.6	5.1	4.6	
UK (RPI)	12.9	15.9	17.0	18.2	20.3	24.3	26.5	25.3	22.5	15.9	13.7	15.0	16.5	17.4	16.5	13.0	9.5	7.6
USA	9.8	10.6	11.5	12.1	11.0	9.6	8.7	7.3	6.4	6.1	5.5	5.0	5.8	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.4	
Japan	24.5	23.8	24.8	24.6	15.2	13.7	10.6	8.4	9.0	9.0	9.3	9.5	9.6	8.8	7.9	6.2	4.3	

[1] Prior to June 1976 excluding rent. [2] Excluding rent. [3] Excluding restaurant meals.

CONSUMER PRICES – FOOD

% change on previous year

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Belgium [3 4]	3.5	1.9	6.7	7.9	9.4	11.2	13.5	6.1
Denmark	8.5	5.9	8.6	13.0	12.3	10.3	10.6	12.4
France [3]	5.9	6.4	7.0	9.7	12.6	11.5	10.0	14.6
Germany [1]	2.9	3.7	6.2	7.2	4.7	5.3	5.1	5.0
Ireland [2]	7.6	7.4	11.9	16.4	14.7	21.5	16.5	18.6
Italy	4.3	4.0	6.3	13.2	19.6	19.7	19.0	20.5
Luxembourg	5.2	3.5	7.0	6.9	9.0	11.2	12.1	4.0
Netherlands [3]	4.0	4.0	6.2	9.1	7.1	8.1	9.8	5.6
UK (RPI)	6.9	11.1	8.9	15.1	18.0	25.6	20.0	19.0
USA	5.5	3.0	4.4	14.5	14.3	8.5	3.1	6.3
Japan	8.7	5.7	3.9	14.2	28.3	13.1	9.1	9.0

% change on same period a year earlier

	1974				1975				1976				1977				1978	
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr
Belgium [3 4]	7.3	7.8	11.0	11.2	10.7	10.4	11.1	12.6	14.2	13.5	10.3	9.7	9.6	6.7	7.8	6.1	3.2	
Denmark	12.7	10.0	9.3	11.0	13.0	12.6	11.9	5.7	8.0	10.2	8.1	16.1	12.8	10.8	12.6	12.8	12.2	
France [3]	12.3	13.1	12.7	12.4	11.9	11.3	11.5	11.2	11.1	10.7	10.7	11.8	11.8	13.3	13.7	12.2	11.0	
Germany [1]	5.4	4.5	3.8	4.8	4.4	5.5	6.1	5.1	6.0	5.4	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.1	5.5	4.4	2.3	
Ireland [2]	11.1	10.9	16.2	20.2	22.7	28.1	19.8	16.0	16.1	12.7	16.4	20.9	18.2	16.4	19.5	11.9	9.6	
Italy	14.5	16.4	21.8	28.7	26.8	23.5	18.1	13.1	14.5	18.6	19.1	23.4	23.8	20.2	21.4	17.3	14.3	
Luxembourg [4]	8.3	7.4	9.6	10.7	8.6	10.4	12.5	13.5	15.4	13.7	10.9	8.9	6.9	4.6	3.3	1.4	0.3	
Netherlands [3]	9.2	7.6	8.4	10.0	7.3	8.7	8.5	7.7	8.8	9.6	10.2	10.3	8.8	7.8	6.9	4.1	2.8	
UK (RPI)	19.1	17.7	17.7	17.7	20.7	27.4	28.4	25.5	24.2	17.8	16.2	22.1	22.0	21.9	21.0	11.9	6.8	6.6
USA [5]	19.5	15.5	10.8	12.5	9.0	8.5	9.7	7.2	4.8	4.5	2.3	0.6	3.8	6.8	7.1	7.6	7.8	
Japan	29.6	26.9	30.3	31.1	17.2	17.1	11.9	10.4	9.3	9.4	9.1	7.2	8.9	7.7	7.0	5.7	3.1	

[1] Including beverages and tobacco. [2] Excluding beverages and tobacco. [3] Including beverages. [4] Excluding restaurant meals. [5] Seasonally adjusted series.

Mr Maclennan said that it was not possible to provide a precise estimate commodity by commodity. However, it was estimated that the phased 7½ per cent green pound devaluation announced on 1 February would, when fully worked through, increase the level of retail food prices by about 1½ per cent. The devaluation had not yet been implemented for all commodities: it would not apply in the cereals and poultry sectors until 1 August.

Petrol price display

Mr R. B. Cant (Stoke on Trent Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection when he expected to introduce new regulations on the way garages displayed petrol prices, following his consultations with petrol companies, retailing associations and consumer groups.

Mr Maclennan replied that a consultative document describing the changes he announced to the house on 17 July was issued on 21 July. He hoped to be able to lay an order embodying the changes in early September, to come into effect at the start of October.

Energy conservation

Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he intended to include effluent heat recovery plant amongst items eligible for grant under the energy conservation scheme.

Mr Huckfield said that the secretary of state had no plans at present to include effluent heat recovery plant within the new energy conservation scheme announced on 13 June.

Trade with developing countries

Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what proportion of total British imports of non-renewable resources came from developing countries in each of the years since 1970 and what these proportions were worth in pound sterling at constant prices; what proportion of total British exports went to developing countries in each of the years since 1970 and what these proportions were worth in pound sterling at constant prices; what proportion of total British imports of food and animal feedstuffs came from developing countries in each of the years since 1970 and what these proportions were worth in pound sterling at constant prices.

Mr Meacher replied that this information was not available at constant prices. Following are the figures available from the overseas trade statistics:

UK EXPORTS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Value (£ million fob)	1 817	2 188	2 205	2 592
Percentage of total exports	22.5	23.8	22.6	20.7
	1974	1975	1976	1977
Value (£ million fob)	3 594	5 202	6 507	8 462
Percentage of total exports	21.6	26.1	25.3	25.7

UK IMPORTS OF FOOD AND ANIMAL FEEDSTUFFS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Value (£ million cif)	500	485	535	687
Percentage of total imports	26.9	24.7	25.5	25.4
	1974	1975	1976	1977
Value (£ million cif)	800	989	1 195	1 628
Percentage of total imports	23.8	25.2	26.6	30.3

UK IMPORTS OF NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Value (£ million cif)	1 036	1 210	1 142	1 652
Percentage of total imports	52.6	57.8	56.1	57.7
	1974	1975	1976	1977
Value (£ million cif)	4 200	3 568	4 526	3 904
Percentage of total imports	66.5	61.9	59.7	53.5

Notes: Figures for developing countries are based on the definition adopted in the overseas trade statistics of the United Kingdom for 1977. Food and animal foodstuffs are taken as comprising SITC(R) section 0. Non-renewable resources are taken as comprising SITC(R) divisions 27, 28, 32, 33, 34, 52 and 68.

Calves to Italy

Sir Bernard Braine (South East Essex) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many British calves were sent to Italy in 1977 and in the first quarter of 1978, respectively.

Mr Meacher gave the following numbers of calves exported from the United Kingdom to Italy:

Year 1977	January-March 1978
59 127	17 840

Source: UK Overseas Trade Statistics.

Leasing of foreign-registered aircraft

Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the policy of Her Majesty's government towards the net leasing of foreign registered aircraft for operation on North Sea oil exploitation in the British sector.

Mr Clinton Davis answered that it was the government's policy to give an operating permit for the use of a foreign-registered helicopter wet-leased to a British operator only if no suitable UK-registered helicopter was available.

Friday, 28 July

Sea traffic control

Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked what proposals were being put to the next International Maritime Consultative Organisation conference concerning the need for a positive sea traffic control system in the English Channel and North Sea.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that in association with the French, the UK was proposing to Imco on 31 July that oil tankers, gas and chemical tankers should report to shore stations before they entered any traffic separation scheme in the channel and western appoaches. The department was also examining what further measures were required for better traffic management in these waters and in the North Sea with a view to submitting further proposals to Imco.

Imco marine safety scheme

Tom Urwin (Houghton le Spring) asked what steps the government had taken to support the Inter Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation's safety corps scheme.

Mr Clinton Davis answered that the marine safety corps scheme, which was conceived and proposed to the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (Imco) by the United Kingdom in April 1977, was an international initiative to encourage and support the adoption and effective world-wide enforcement of marine safety conventions. He was pleased to announce that, in response to a request from Imco on behalf of the Republic of Panama, it was agreed that two senior members of the Department of Trade's marine survey organisation would be provided to give advice and guidance to the government of Panama's maritime safety services.

Trade in clothing

Nicholas Winteton (Macclesfield) asked what was the value of imports of clothing and accessories from all countries into the United Kingdom in 1976, 1977 and 1978 to the latest convenient date; what was the value of exports of clothing and accessories from the United Kingdom to all countries in 1976, 1977 and 1978 to the latest convenient date; what was the cost and volume of United Kingdom textile and clothing exports to EEC countries in 1976 and 1977.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

TEXTILE CLOTHING (INCLUDING ACCESSORIES THEREOF): £ million

	1976	1977	Jan-Jun 1978
Imports (cif)	639	707	387
Exports (fob)	358	536	266

EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND TEXTILE CLOTHING TO EEC COUNTRIES

	1976	1977
Quantity ('000 tonnnes)	272	277
Value (£ million fob)	571	757

Overseas exhibitions

Neil Kinnock (Bedwellty) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what amount was spent last year by his department in setting up exhibitions abroad; and what proportion of the contracts were awarded to British firms.

Mr Meacher replied that in the financial year 1977-78 total expenditure by the British Overseas Trade Board on construction and allied display work at exhibitions abroad was £5.7 million of which an estimated £2.0 million (35 per cent went to UK firms. This proportion had to be seen in context whereby some 40 per cent of BOTB fairs activity was in markets such as the Far East, Australiasia, north and south America, where because of the sheer distances involved it was unrealistic to expect UK firms to compete with local companies.

Hearing Aid Council

Laurie Pavitt (Brent South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would publish a table showing the present members of the Hearing Aid Council, their terms of office, and, in the case of the six members representing the industry, the names of the firms with which they were connected.

Mr Fraser answered that the present members of the Hearing Aid Council were:

Chairman:

Mr K. G. Addison		16 Dec 1971-15 Dec 1978

Members appointed under para 1(3) (a) of the schedule to the Hearing Aid Council Act 1968:

Mrs M. Lundy	Scunthorpe Hearing Centre	29 Dec 1974-28 Dec 1980
Mr J. A. Durning	John A. Durning Ltd	29 Dec 1975-28 Dec 1978
Mr M. C. Bruce	Danavox (Great Britain) Ltd	29 Dec 1975-28 Dec 1978
Mr A. A. Campbell	Campbell Hearing Aids Ltd	29 Dec 1976-28 Dec 1979

Hearing aids

Laurie Pavitt (Brent South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would consider restricting trainee dispensers of hearing aids from calling at the homes of potential buyers and confining that method of selling to dispensers who are fully qualified to be on the register or the Hearing Aid Council.

Mr Fraser said that the code of practice drawn up by the Hearing Aid Council allowed trainee dispensers to dispense hearing aids only to persons who had been examined in the presence of or by a registered dispenser. If the questioner had evidence that this part of the code was not working satisfactorily he would be grateful if he would let him have details.

Asbestos warning

Jo Richardson (Barking) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if, in view of the known hazards of exposure to asbestos, he would consider taking steps to ensure that products made of asbestos or containing asbestos should be labelled with a warning to consumers of the danger of the material.

Mr Fraser said that there had been a voluntary scheme since October 1976 under which consumer products containing asbestos bore a warning label. The effectiveness of this scheme was being kept under review and the possible need for further action would be considered when the report of the advisory committee on asbestos was published.

Shipbuilding intervention fund

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry on what assumptions as to intervention fund support British Shipbuilders forecasted their loss.

Mr Kaufman said that the forecast assumed that intervention fund subsidies would be available this year to assist the corporation to secure new orders. The amount of intervention fund support was not quantified since this would depend on the availability and terms of orders secured.

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. Further details are available from the National Research Development Corporation, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1.

European community news

Discussions to open on control of steel imports . . .

Urgent bilateral discussions are to be held between the commission and EEC member states on difficulties arising from present arrangements for the control of steel imports, Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, told the commons on 26 July.

Reporting on the foreign affairs council held in Brussels on 25 July, Mr Judd said that the council had agreed on procedural arrangements for further discussion of problems affecting the community steel industry. Progress would be reviewed in October.

The council had reached provisional agreement, subject to a UK reserve, on the text of a resolution on the shipbuilding industry, Mr Judd said.

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, who was also at the council, accepted the arrangements negotiated with Portugal, Greece and Spain on low cost textile imports, after receiving satisfactory assurances from the commission that it would take action to ensure that the agreed ceilings on these imports would be strictly enforced and that new restraints would be imposed promptly when the need arose.

The council had taken note of a progress report from the commission on the Gatt multilateral trade negotiations and had discussed points to be borne in mind in the next stages of the negotiations, Mr Judd said.

The presidency had reported briefly on the outcome of the formal opening of the renegotiation of the Lomé convention which took place in Brussels on 24 July. The council had emphasised the importance it attaches to reaching a new agreement with Yugoslavia. It was agreed that further proposals from the commission would be considered after the summer break.

The council had taken the formal decision fixing 7 to 10 June 1979 as the date for the first direct elections to the European assembly.

The presidency had reported to the council on the way follow-up work to the conclusions reached at the European council in Bremen had been allocated among the responsible community institutions. The presidency and the commission reported on the outcome of the Bonn summit, expressing satisfaction with the results.

Under other business the UK had welcomed the agreement reached in the agriculture council, Mr Judd said, which allowed the UK to resume importing beef from the southern area of Botswana, and urged that imports should be permitted soon from other areas which are free of foot and mouth disease.

The nine foreign ministers had issued a declaration on Namibia noting that the way was now open to an early internationally acceptable solution and declaring their readiness to respond to a request to help support the economic well-being of an independent Namibia.

Mr Dell had raised the code of conduct for companies with interests in South Africa. He had emphasised the importance of instituting as soon as possible national arrangements to ensure compliance with the code and full reporting by companies comparable to those set out in white paper Cmnd 7233 and its annexes.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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. . . and Dell welcomes commission action on textiles

Assurances from the European commission on action to enforce agreed ceilings on low cost textile imports from Mediterranean suppliers were welcomed by Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, after the foreign affairs council in Brussels on 25 July.

Mr Dell said that UK government and industry had been concerned that these suppliers should keep to the global ceilings agreed by the community last December. To enforce the point, since April the UK had held up a revised agreement the commission negotiated with Portugal because it wanted to ensure that there were satisfactory arrangements in relation to imports from Mediterranean suppliers generally.

After a considerable period of pressure from the UK the commission had signed an agreement with Greece, Mr Dell said, which overcame uncertainties about its exports to the UK market. The UK had also received assurances that safeguard action would be taken if there were dangers that Spanish textile export limits might be exceeded.

Mr Dell said he had pressed the commission for two further assurances about Mediterranean suppliers. They were that the commission would in future take action when there was an imminent threat that ceilings might be exceeded, rather than after the limits had been reached, and that the commission would also take action when there was a substantial increase in imports to the UK of products not previously covered by quotas, if it seemed likely that they would cause cumulative disruption to the UK industry.

Because of all the assurances Mr Dell had received, he had lifted the UK's reserve on the agreement with Portugal.

Committees to probe European monetary cooperation

Proposals outlined by the July European council for the creation of closer monetary cooperation within the EEC will be examined by the monetary committee, the committee of the governors of the central banks and the European commission.

This was decided at the finance council held in Brussels on 24 July, Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the commons in a written reply on 27 July.

Mr Healey said that the council had also asked the economic policy committee to study what action needed to be taken within the framwork of the European monetary system to strengthen the economies of the less prosperous member states. The committee had been asked to report back in time for the council on 18 September. The council had instructed Coreper, the permanent representatives committee, to define at its 27 July meeting the brief for the economic policy committee.

The council had approved the decision on the adjustment of the 1978 official budgets and the preparation of the 1979 official budgets in the framework of the co-ordinated community approach. One delegation had entered a provisional reservation. This decision fixed the individual contributions of the member states to the common strategy to deal with the economic situation which were decided upon at the European council.

Mr Healey said that the council had established a common approach on the proposal for a regulation on the procedure for applying the European unit of account to legal acts adopted by the institutions of the European communities. This common approach would be

communicated to the European parliament within the framework of the conciliation procedure. This draft regulation concerns the use of the Eua as an instrument of management of the general budget of the community. It also contained certain provisions about the expression in Eua of the financial rights and obligations of the European communities. The introduction of the Eua in customs and tax reliefs as from 1 January 1979 was also provided for.

The council had also heard an account by its president and by the commission concerning the western economic summit held on 16 and 17 July in Bonn.

Intervention butter discussed at council

Commission proposals for subsidised sales of butter from intervention stocks was considered at the agriculture council on 25 July, John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in a written commons reply on 26 July. Because of the special circumstances of the UK market, Mr Silkin said that these proposals would have created difficulties in the UK and the benefit to consumers would have been comparatively small.

The council had accordingly expressed the view that the UK's share of the total of 50 million units of account allocated for these schemes should instead be added to the special UK butter subsidy. The details would be subject to further discussion and it might be some time yet before the scheme could be implemented. It would be the government's intention that the payments should apply to all butter sold on the UK market. The amount likely to be available would be equivalent to about 3p per lb over a period of three months.

The council had also considered the question of resuming imports of beef from Botswana, which had been suspended for several months because of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the north of that country. It had been decided that, in view of the improved animal health position, imports of beef from the southern region of Botswana could safely be resumed into Britain and that urgent consideration would be given in early September to allowing imports from other disease-free areas.

Mr Silkin said he had drawn the attention of the council to the fact that the French government had closed its market to imports of British sheepmeat for an unspecified period. The minister had pointed out that this would increase the discrimination against UK exports to France. The commission had undertaken to consider the position.

UK stand on voting at fisheries council

After protracted debate at the fisheries council on 24 to 25 July it was established that the UK could not be compelled to accept voting on fishery matters which affect its fundamental national interest, John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said on 26 July.

In a written parliamentary reply Mr Silkin said that the council had been marked by an attempt on the part of the German presidency to force the UK to accept qualified majority voting on fishery matters. This would inevitably have prejudiced the UK's stand for a just settlement of the common fisheries policy.

The UK stand was demonstrated when Mr Silkin had opposed the conclusion of framework agreements with the Faroes, Sweden and Norway.

The council had agreed on a division of the EEC's quotas off northern Norway for the next three months and off the Faroes for 1978 as a whole. The division preserves the UK's share of the most important species taken in these waters on the basis of the allocation agreed last September. Consequently, it had been possible to reach agreement in principle on a further roll-forward of the arrangements for reciprocal fishing between the EEC and third countries.

The council had also agreed on the provision of funds to assist coastal states to maintain effective fishery protection in waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction. Initially this will apply to waters around Ireland and Greenland but an amendment had been adopted by the council to provide that the arrangement may be extended to other member states. The council had, in addition, agreed to a limited scheme of aid, not extending beyond the end of this year, for investment in inshore fishing vessels and fish farming in certain regions.

Mr Silkin said he had drawn the council's attention to the latest scientific advice regarding the herring fishery around the Isle of Man but the council had not reached any conclusion on measures to conserve this stock.

Comments invited on immersion chilling

Interested organisations have been invited to comment on proposals for regulations designed to implement the requirements of EEC directive 78/50 on the immersion chilling of poultry. The proposed regulations would also implement the requirements of EEC directive 77/27 on the health marking of large packages of poultry meat, and make a very limited number of amendments to the Poultry Meat (Hygiene) Regulations 1976.

The regulations would set detailed requirements for the immersion chilling process. Exemptions would be available until 15 August 1982 for premises in operation before 1 January 1978 in relation to poultry meat for sale only within the UK. The proposals on health marking of large packages would remove the need for each carcase to be individually marked in certain circumstances. The proposed amendments to the 1976 regulations would clarify the requirements for joint products made from poultry and other meat, clarify the status of the official veterinary surgeon and amend slightly the powers of entry given by the regulations to bring them completely into line with those in the Food and Drugs Act.

It is proposed that the regulations would come fully into force on 15 February 1979.

Organisations which may wish to comment but which do not receive copies of the proposals during the next few days may obtain copies from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Animal Health Division IV, Branch A, Tolworth Tower, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DX. Any comments should be sent to the same address by 31 August 1978.

Commission blocks UK-Australia nuclear treaty

European commission objections to the nuclear safeguards agreement between the UK and Australia have meant it has not been signed as planned. The agreement was initialled last month and was to have been signed and come into force on 27 July.

The UK government does not accept that the objections raised by the commission are well-founded, since the agreement was negotiated in full conformity with the UK's obligations as a member state of Euratom.

The commission decision has blocked an agreement, the UK government says, which would have opened the way to the conclusion of contracts for the supply of uranium.

Supervision in slaughterhouses necessary for exports to EEC – Strang

Introducing regulations based on recent recommendations for permanent veterinary supervision in export slaughterhouses was essential in safeguarding the UK's exports of red meat to the EEC, Gavin Strang, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said to the Lancaster symposium of the Environmental Health Officers' Association on 14 July.

'Our present arrangements for implementing the EEC directive only during export runs have been criticised by our community customers – and it is only fair to say that as importers we would not accept dual standards of operation in slaughterhouses approved to export to us. If we want to maintain and increase our export trade (which is already worth some £200 million per year, a very valuable contribution to the balance of payments) we have no choice but to meet the requirements of our customers.'

Mr Strang turned next to the Meat Hygiene Working Group's recommendations on exports of meat products to EEC destinations. The group had recognised, Mr Strang said, that the UK would have to await the outcome of the EEC's review of non-veterinary qualifications.

'Unfortunately this review is taking longer than we had hoped, and we have yet to see any

Business opportunities in ACP states

The Centre for Industrial Development (CID) was created specifically to implement the objectives set for industrial co-operation under article 36 of the Lomé convention.

The centre actively promotes industrial investment in the 54 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) member states as a means of accelerating their pace of industrialisation, to encourage the transfer of technology from the European Economic Community, and encouraging the exploitation of complementary resources for mutual benefit.

The centre is not political nor is it profit-seeking; it is impartial and does not favour any special country and observes industrial secrecy.

Trade and Industry will be publishing from time to time details of projects or companies in the ACP states who are looking for EEC partners. This first list follows. Firms interested in following up these items should contact the Centre for Industrial Development, Avenue George Henri 451, B-1200 Brussels.

Infant cereals

Jamaica: The Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation is investigating a project for the production of about 9000 tons a year of infant cereals for children up to four years. Principal raw materials will be corn meal and soya flour.

EEC producers of infant food, and plant manufacturers, are invited to contact the CID which would consider the co-financing of a feasibility study for the project (Ref. 57/78).

PVC pipes

Fiji: A private company, Nivas Hardware Ltd, GPO Box 141, Suva, Fiji, is interested in purchasing a small manually operated machine for the extrusion of ½ × 4 in pipes. Manufacturers should submit offers directly to the company, with copy to the CID in Brussels (Ref. 58/78).

Industrial chicken production

Gabon: A Gabon businessman is currently involved in chicken production at a rate of 300 a day. He is contemplating increasing production to 1000 a day. An alternative would be a new facility to produce 4000 chickens a day.

The centre would like to hear from potential investors with experience in this field (Ref. 59/78).

Cement

Congo: The government plans to establish a second cement factory with a capacity of 1000 000 tons a year. A feasibility study is available. EEC investment and technical partners are required (Ref. 60/78).

Ferromanganese

Congo: The government is looking for an EEC joint-venture partner for the establishment of a plant for the production of 37 000 tons a year of ferromanganese. A detailed feasibility study would have to be carried out jointly by the CID, the EEC partner and the Congolese government (Ref. 61/78).

Gold mining

An EEC investment partner is needed for a gold mining project in an ACP state. Information on deposit and conditions for exploitation can be obtained from the CID (Ref. 62/78).

Aluminium household utensils

A private Nigerian promoter is looking for a technical and financial partner for the production of aluminium holloware. The foreseen capacity is about 235 tons a year. A study is available from CID (Ref. 63/78).

Wiredrawing mill

Gabon: A private Gabonese company plans to establish a wiredrawing mill for the production of wire fences and nails. The production would be about 800 tons the first year. This firm is looking for EEC partners to provide technical assistance in the setting up of the project and help them with the selling of their products.

A schematic study, to be reviewed and up-dated by the interested EEC party, is available with the CID. The CID is willing to assist with the finalisation of the study (Ref. 64/78).

proposals from the commission. But I would remind you that the UK government's attitude, both in its evidence to the EEC review and in all other contexts, has been clear. Despite the fact that export certification for meat products consigned to other EEC countries has traditionally been a veterinary responsibility, we have argued – and continue to state – that environmental health officers designated for the purpose should also be recognised as suitable for this task. This proposition, as I have said, awaits agreement in Brussels and I anticipate difficult negotiations.'

Re-opening of GSP textile quotas and ceilings

The GSP textile quotas and textile ceilings (including special ceilings), falling within chapters 50 to 63, have been reopened for the period 1 July to 31 December 1978 inclusive, at the same levels as the previous six months.

Inquiries about quotas and ceilings: HM Customs and Excise, Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2570/2295.

ECSC funds homes schemes

Loans to build and modernise British coal and steel workers' houses, available at 1 per cent interest rate, have been announced by the European commission. The loans are funded by the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC).

A loan of £500,000 has been granted for a modernisation programme for 900 occupied by National Coal Board employees at Meden Vale, Notts, and Blackhall, Co Durham. Another £34,137 goes for improvement for 48 houses in north-east England and £340,000 for improvement of 126 dwellings at Boughton, north Notts, occupaied by NCB employees.

To help meet the need for more housing for the expanding workforce of the steel works at Sheerness, Kent, the ECSC is making a loan of £150,000 to spend on the improvement of existing houses and of the construction of new ones.

In Wales, £15,727 goes for the building of 10 houses for British Steel Corporation employees and £8,760 towards modernising four houses in Cardiff occupied by GKN employees. A loan of just under £20,000 is also being made for modernising 15 homes in Sheffield occupied by BSC employees.

Company law fourth directive adopted

The EEC fourth directive on company accounts was adopted by the council of ministers on 25 July. The text of the directive, with a short explanatory note, will appear in *Trade and Industry*, 11 August.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons in the 14 days to 20 July 1978 (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses). These documents are available for consultation at the European Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

R/1479/78 (COM(78)213 FINAL)
Amended proposal for a Council Decision adopting a second three-year plan of action in the field of information and documentation on science and technology.

S/1145/78 (COM(78)270 FINAL)
Recommendation for a Council Regulation concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, Portuguese Republic, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Swiss Confederation for the purpose of adjusting tariff specifications.

R/1444/78, Corr. 1 (COM(78)115 final)
Proposal for a specific Council Directive on the overall migration limit for the constituents of plastics materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

R/1641/78 (COM(78)306 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) no. 2452/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of butter held by the intervention agencies of other Member States.

R/1771/78 (COM(78)269 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for processing work in respect of certain textile products under Community outward processing arrangements.

R/1781/78 (COM(78)268 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision authorising prolongation or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and third countries.

R/1790/78 (COM(78)295 final)
Proposal for a Council Regulation adopting general rules in connection with special measures for castor seeds.

R/1794/78 (COM(78)288 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 66/403/EEC, 69/208/EEC, 70/458/EEC and 70/457/EEC on the marketing of fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, seed of oil and fibre plants, vegetable seed and on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species.

S/1155/78 (COM(78)274 FINAL)
Recommendation for a Council Regulation concluding the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Tunisia concerning certain wine originating in Tunisia and entitled to a designation of origin; Proposal for a Council Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Tunisia (1978-79).

S/1174/78 (No COM document)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) derogating for certain products coming from Malta from the Protocol concerning the definition of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation to the Agreement establishing an association between the European Economic Community and Malta.

S/1237/78 (COM(78)291 FINAL)
Commodities: Olive Oil: Signature and provisional application of the Protocol of 7 April 1978 for the further extension of the International Olive Oil Agreement, 1963.

R/1869/78 (COM(78)326 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) fixing, for the 1978/79 marketing year, the production aid for tinned pineapple and the minimum price to be paid to pineapple producers.

R/1863/78 (COM(78)314 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1978 by Regulation (EEC) no. 2747/77 for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff.

R/1861/78 (COM(78)301 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision adopting joint research programmes and programmes for co-ordinating agricultural research.

R/1864/78 (COM(78)309 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a research and

development programme for the European Economic Community in the field of reference materials and methods (Community Bureau of Reference – BCR) and applied metrology (non-nuclear indirect action) (1979-82).
R/1860/78 (COM(78)297 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on direct collaboration between the competent bodies in the Member States regarding the downgrading of quality wines produced in specified regions.
R/1856/78 (COM(78)307 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision reviewing the second multi-annual research and development programme for the European Economic Community in the environmental field (indirect action).
R/1845/78 (COM(78)305 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation on temporary importation arrangements.
R/1843/78 (COM(78)298 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) no. 2636/77 on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for certain hand-made products.
R/1842/78 (COM(78)300 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation no. 2635/77 on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for certain handwoven fabrics, pile and chenille, falling within headings ex 50.09, ex 55.07, ex 55.09 and ex 58.04 of the Common Customs Tariff.
R/1814/78 (COM(78)279 FINAL)
Utilisation of the unexpended balances of the First and Second European Development Funds.
S/1192/78 (COM(78)293 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down certain conservation and management measures for common fishery resources off the West Greenland coast applicable in 1978 to vessels flying the flag of Canada.
S/1193/78 (COM(78)322 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) allocating certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone.
S/1182/78 (COM(78)312 FINAL)
Recommendation for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the opening of a Community tariff quota for Malta for certain prepared or preserved bovine meat falling within subheading ex 16.02 of the CCT: Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain prepared or preserved bovine meat falling within heading ex 16.02 of the CCT, originating in Malta (1978-79).
S/1194/78 (COM(78)324 FINAL)
Amendment to the proposal for Council Regulation allocating certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in the waters of the Faroe Islands.
R/1685/78 (COM(78)316 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) providing for an aid for degerming maize.
R/1807/78 (No COM document)
Accession of the Solomon Islands to the Lomé Convention. Amendments to be made to the draft Council Decision on the temporary application of the OCT arrangements to the Solomon Islands.
R/1835/78 (COM(78)281 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the development of an agricultural advisory service in Italy.

Consultative documents
R/13/78 (No COM document)
Report by the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1976.
S/1095/78 (COM(78)286 FINAL)
Commission communication to the Council on the temporary extension of bilateral relations in the fisheries sector between Italy and Yugoslavia.
S/1148/78 (COM(78)283 FINAL)
Commission communication to the Council on the improvement for negotiating international customs conventions.
S/1140/78 (COM(78)287 FINAL)
Commission communication to the Council on relations between the Community and the Efta countries.
R/1736/78 (COM)78)211 FINAL)
Commission communication to the Council with a view to concerted action on aircraft programmes provided for in the Resolution of 4th March 1975 and the Statement of 14th March 1977.
R/1527/78 (COM(78)311 FINAL)
Commission report to the Council on the application of Protocol 18 in 1977.

New EEC legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 1603/78 amending regulation (EEC) 2744/75 on the import and export system for products processed from cereals and from rice (*Official Journal* L188, 11 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1609/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1501/77 determining the intervention centres for cereals (*Official Journal* L188, 11 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1680/78 on the adjustment of the export refunds on malt under article 16 (4) of Regulation (EEC) 2727/75 (*Official Journal* L193, 18 July 1978).

Processed fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1610/78 fixing the coefficients to be applied to production aid for tomato concentrates and prunes and to the minimum price for dried plums (prunes d'Ente) (*Official Journal* L188, 11 July 1978).

The *Official Journal* L194, 19 July 1978 contains the following corrigendum to regulation (EEC) 1154/78 (published in *Official Journal* L144, 31 May 1978) amending regulation (EEC) 1035/72 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables and regulation (EEC) 2601/69 laying down special measures to encourage the processing of certain varieties of oranges.

Page 6, article 3 (1), new paragraph 1a, 10th line:

for: '. . . shall not be less, for the first, second, third, fourth', *read:* '. . . shall not be more, for the first, second, third, fourth'.

Animal feedingstuffs. Regulation 1645/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1105/68 on detailed rules for granting aid for skimmed milk for use as feed (*Official Journal* L191, 14 July 1978).

Hops. Regulation (EEC) 1646/78 laying down detailed rules on the checking of minimum marketing requirements for hops imported from third countries (*Official Journal* L191, 14 July 1978).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 1681/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1107/68 on detailed rules of application for intervention on the market in Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses (*Official Journal* L193, 18 July 1978).

Fish. Regulation (EEC) 1701/78 amending article 3 of regulation (EEC) 1985/74 laying down detailed rules of application for the fixing of reference prices and free-at-frontier prices for carp. This should be amended to read.

'a reference price shall be fixed for carp:
– for the period 1 August to 30 November,
– for the period running from 1 December of one year to 31 July of the following year'.

(*Official Journal* L195, 20 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1702/78 fixing for the 1978-79 marketing year, reference prices for carp (*Official Journal* L195, 20 July 1978).

Common customs tariff

Regulation (EEC) 1688/78 on the classification of the product called 'Emping melindjo' within subheading 21.07 G I a) 2 cc) of the common customs tariff (*Official Journal* L194, 19 July 1978).

Harmonisation of legislation

Import/export duties. The *Official Journal* L194, 19 July 1978, contains the following corrigendum to directive 78/453/EEC (published in *Official Journal* L146, 2 June 1978) on the harmonisation of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action concerning deferred payment of import duties or export duties.

Page 20, article 3 (2), second line:

for: '. . . must be made later . . .', *read:* '. . . must be made not later. . .'.

Motor vehicles. The *Official Journal* L194, 19 July 1978, contains the following corrigendum to directive 78/317/EEC (published in *Official Journal* L81, 28 March 1978) on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the defrosting and demisting systems of glazed surfaces of motor vehicles.

Page 43, annex IV, figure 1:

for: '18°', *read:* '13°'.

Corrigendum to directive 78/318/EEC (published in *Official Journal* L81, 28 March 1978) on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the wiper and washer systems of motor vehicles.

Page 66, annex IV, figure 1:

for: '18°', *read:* '13°'.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal* L193, 18 July 1978, contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 78/575/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to women's, girls' and infants' woven overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes,

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jackets and blazers other than coats of impregnated, coated, covered or laminated woven fabric falling within heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 61.02B (Nimexe code 61.02-31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40) of the common customs tariff, originating in Yugoslavia and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/576/EEC authorising Ireland not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' outer garments; men's and boys' woven suits (including co-ordinate suits consisting of two or three pieces, which are ordered, packed, consigned and normally sold together) of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.01 (Nimexe code 61.01-51, 54, 57) of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/577/EEC authorising Ireland not to apply community treatment to certain outer garments and clothing accessories and women's, girls' and infants' (other than babies') woven and knitted or crocheted dresses, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 60.05 A II or 61.02B (Nimexe codes 60.05-41, 42, 43, 44; 61.02-48, 52, 53, 54) of the common customs tariff, originating in India and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/578/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to articles of apparel and under garments for men and women excluding woven shirt-blouses, falling within chapter ex 61 of the common customs tariff, originating in Poland and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/579/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to essential oils, not terpeneless; orange oil, falling within subheading 33.01 ex A (Nimexe code 33.01-12) of the common customs tariff, originating in Brazil and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/580/EEC authorising Ireland not to apply community treatment to shirts, T-shirts, lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle necked jumpers and pullovers, undervests and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised, other than babies' garments, of cotton or synthetic textile fibres; T-shirts and lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle necked jumpers and pullovers or regenerated textile fibres, falling within heading ex 60.04 (Nimexe code 60.04-01, 05, 13, 18, 28, 29, 30, 41, 50, 58) of the common customs tariff, originating in Thailand and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/581/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to toys of wood and others (excluding motors and movement mechanisms for toys and working models used for recreational purposes and parts thereof), falling within subheading 97.03 A or ex B of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states

The *Official Journal* L196, 21 July 1978, contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 78/607/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to blouses and shirt-blouses, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised) or woven, for women, girls and infants, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 60.05A II or ex 61.02B (Nimexe codes 60.05-22, 23, 24, 25; 61.02-78, 82, 84) of the common customs tariff, originating in Bulgaria and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 78/608/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to spoons, forks, fish-eaters, butter-knives, ladles and similar kitchen or tableware, falling within heading 82.14 of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

New terms for EEC agricultural imports from Cyprus

From 1 July, EEC imports of agricultural produce from Cyprus benefit from tariff reductions over and above those originally laid down in the EEC-Cyprus association agreement; two new protocols were signed on 11 May 1978 to supplement the agreement's terms for agricultural goods and both entered into force on 1 July. They do not affect community exports to Cyprus.

The first supplementary protocol gives EEC tariff reductions of between 40 per cent and 10 per cent on a range of Cypriot fruit and vegetables (eg new potatoes, carrots, citrus fruit), the concessions for most fresh fruit and vegetables being applicable during a limited period of each year and, subject to annual community tariff quotas, on dried grapes, certain light wines and liqueur wines; the appropriate community reference price applies to all imports of the wines.

The second protocol will apply until the end of 1979 only. It provides for tariff concessions in addition to those contained in the first protocol, for new potatoes, fresh carrots, sweet peppers and aubergines, and for a community tariff quota to be opened at a reduced rate of duty for table grapes imported during specified periods. Under its provisions, new potatoes and fresh carrots will be entitled to both greater tariff reductions and to an additional period during which such reductions apply, sweet peppers to a greater tariff reduction and aubergines to an additional tariff concession period.

However, these additional concessions will be available only within the limits of community tariff quotas which (except that for sweet peppers) are to be opened for limited, specified periods. Once a quota is fully used further imports may, during those periods to which the concessions of the first protocol apply, benefit from the smaller tariff reductions of that protocol.

The texts of the two protocols can be found in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L172, 28 June.

Inquiries: (General) Commercial Relations and Exports, 01-215 3472; (import duties) General Division, 01-215 5542; (tariff quotas) General Division, 01-215 5491.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

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Article 100: checklist of draft and adopted directives.

Below we print the usual quarterly revision of our checklist showing the directives proposed, approved, or adopted under Article 100 of the Treaty of Rome. The last list was published in *Trade and Industry* of 28 April. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the *European Community Commentary*.

A word on terminology. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings, and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration.

A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either by the commission or if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (Legislation) series of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and the text of commission proposals in the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. Preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published. In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The journal has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972. Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter. The *Official Journal* is published by HM Stationery Office.

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Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval*	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	COM(76)721 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 2.2.77)
	78/315/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
Sound level and exhaust system	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Diective (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission directive (*OJ* 22.11.73)
	77/212/EEC of 8.3.77	Directive amending 70/157/EEC (*OJ* 12.3.77)
Fuel tanks and rear protective devices	70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progress
Audible warning devices	70/388/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Air pollution by gases from positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.4.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.6.74)
	77/102/EEC of 30.11.76	Commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC (*OJ* 3.2.77 L32)
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.5.70)
Doors	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Direction indicator lamps	76/759/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark ignition engines	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling devices	76/756/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal Directives adopted but not yet published
Field of vision *	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
	77/649/EEC of 27.9.77	Directive (*OJ* 19.10.77)
Rear-view mirrors	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (*OJ* 22.3.71)
	XI/453/76	Preliminary draft
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Reverse and speedometer equipment	75/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not yet started	
Maximum speed (method of determination)	Work not yet started	
Braking devices	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.9.75) and corrigendum (*OJ* 23.9.75)
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Arrangement of foot controls	XI/341/75	Preliminary draft
Identification of controls tell-tales and indicators *	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/316/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78 L81/3)
Tyres	COM(76)712 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Mechanical coupling equipment between vehicles and trailers	XI/14/77	Preliminary draft
Anchorages for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Emission of pollutants by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (*OJ* 20.8.72)
	Corrigendum to 72/306/EEC	(*OJ* 23.11.77)
External projections	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (*OJ* 2.10.74)
Head-restraints of seats	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Devices to prevent the unauthorised use of motor vehicles	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in the event of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.6.74)
Safety belts and restraint systems	77/541/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Statutory plates and inscriptions, their location and method of attachment *	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
	COM(78)547 FINAL of 19.5.78	Commission directive adapting 76/114/EEC to technical progress
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal Directive adopted but not yet published
Interior fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not yet started	
Special provision for public transport vehicles	XI/347/76	Preliminary draft
Special provisions for taxis	Work not yet started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	XI/1042/76	Preliminary draft
Towing-devices	77/389/EEC of 18.5.77	Directive (*OJ* 13.6.77)
Legs of trailers and semi-trailers	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflectors	76/757/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Front fog lamps and filament lamps	76/762/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear registration plate lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
End-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, and stop lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Headlamps	76/761/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear fog lamps	77/538/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Parking lamps	77/540/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Reversing lamps	77/539/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Hazard warning devices	Work not yet started	
Springs	Work not yet started	
Verification of fuel consumption	XI/702/76	Preliminary draft
Heating systems	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77) Directive adopted but not yet published
Wheel guards	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77) Directive adopted but not yet published
Weights and dimensions	COM(76)701 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20 1.77)
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Maximum design speed and load platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Diective (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Certain parts and characteristics	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Power connection for lighting and light signalling devices	75/323/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Driver's seat *	XI/604/76	Preliminary draft
	XI/693/76	Preliminary draft
	III/403/78	Further preliminary draft
Passenger seats	76/763/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Coupling between tractor and trailer	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Braking devices	76/432/EEC of 6.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 8.5.76)
Safety glass	XI/299/74	Preliminary draft
Emission of pollutants from diesel engines	77/537/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off *	III/401/78-FR	Preliminary draft
Field of vision and windscreen wipers	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen height	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load applied to mechanical coupling devices	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear *	III/247/78	Preliminary draft
Rollover protection structures	77/536/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
	XI/1036/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft technical annexes
	III/794/77	Modification of XI/1036/76 Rev 1
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started but no papers yet available	
Location identification and operation of controls *	XI/44/74	Preliminary draft
	III/340/78	Further preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices) *	III/1199/77	Preliminary draft
Driver-perceived noise level	77/311/EEC of 29.3.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.72)
Clinical mercury-in-glass maximum reading thermometers	76/764/EEC of 27.77.6	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Medium accuracy bar and cylindrical weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
Measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Calibration of the tanks of vessels	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Material measures of length *	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	III/771/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
		Commission directive adapting 73/362/EEC to technical progress
	COM(78)134 FINAL	Commission proposal
		Directive adopted but not yet published
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	76/696/EEC of 27.7.76	Commission directives: Technical progress adaptation (*OJ* 27.8.76)
Electrical energy	76/891/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.71)
Measuring systems for liquids other than water	77/313/EEC of 5.4.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water	71/348/EEC of 12 10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters *	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	XI/355/76 Rev 3	Preliminary draft
		Second technical progress adaptation
	78/365/EEC of 31.3.78	Commission directive (*OJ* L104 of 18.4.78)
Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74	
	XI/948/76	
	XI/1082/76	
	COM(77)455 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 19.10.77)
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Hot water meters	XI/996/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)495 FINAL	Commission proposal
Thermal energy meters	III/214/77	Preliminary draft
Road and rail transport tanks for use as measuring containers		Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74) withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Taximeters	77/95/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers	76/765/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
	Corrigenda	(*OJ* 5.3.77)
Alcohol tables	76/766/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Saccharimeters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Continuous totalising weighing machines	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started but no papers yet available	
Metallic manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started but no papers yet available	
Weights of from 1 mg to 50 kg of above medium accuracy	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices incorporated or associated with measuring instruments *	XI/667/76 Rev 4	Preliminary draft
	III/379/78-F	Further preliminary draft
Units of measurement *	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 29.10.71)
	76/770/EEC of 27.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
	Corrigenda to 76/770/EEC	(*OJ* 14.12.76)
	III/92/78-EN	Preliminary draft
Check-weighing and grading machines	COM(75)573 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Making up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products *	76/211/EEC of 20.1.76	Directive (*OJ* 21.2.76 L46)
	III/348/78	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
Ranges of nominal quantities permitted for certain prepackaged products	COM(76)384 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 18.8.76)
Scales of charges for the testing of gas meters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Tyre pressure gauges	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73.	Directive (*OJ* 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 12.2.75)
Medical X-ray equipment	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (framework directive)		
Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (special directive)	XI/508/75	Preliminary draft
	XI/1119/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	XI/79/77	Amendment
	XI/80/77	Amendment
	COM(77)660 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.1.78)
Radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment	76/889/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lighting luminaires	76/890/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	XI/685/76	Preliminary draft withdrawn, revision in preparation
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.71)
	75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (*OJ* 31.7.72)
Quantitative analysis of ternary fibre mixtures	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 30.3.73)
Quantitative analysis mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started but no papers yet available	
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	76/767/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689	Commission proposal
Aerosol dispensers	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Welded unalloyed steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Unfired pressure vessels of welded steel	XI/584/75	Preliminary draft
	XI/584/77 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
Shell boilers for producing steam or hot water	Work started but no papers yet available	

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification packaging and labelling of dangerous substances	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.67)
	73/146/EEC of 21.5.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 25.6.73)
	75/409/EEC of 24.6.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
	76/907/EEC of 14.7.76	Commission directive adapting to technical progress 67/548/EEC (*OJ* 30.12.76)
	COM(76)433 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 5.11.76)
Classification packaging and labelling of pesticides	COM(74)2193 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
		Directive adopted but not yet published
Approval and putting into circulation of agricultural pesticides	15.175/Vi/69	Preliminary draft
	COM(76)427 FINAL	Commission proposal
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents)	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.7.73)
	III/Ex. XI/790/76 Rev 4	Draft amending directive
Classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, glues and related products	COM(75)311 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.7.75)
	77/728/EEC of 13.11.77.	Directive (*OJ* 28.11.77)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous products of general use in the home (household preparations)	XI/780/76	Preliminary draft
	XI/1/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Corrosives	Work started but no papers yet available	
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants *	XI/315/76	Preliminary draft
	III/1293/77	Preliminary draft
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations	76/769/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain types of asbestos fibre	III/366/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances not covered by original directive 67/548/EEC	III/365/77	Preliminary draft
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
Certification and marking of wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	76/434/EEC of 13.4.76	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.5.76) Adapting 73/361/EEC to technical progress
Common provisions for lifting and mechanical handling appliances (general directive)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75.)
Tower cranes for building work	XI/276/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	XI/882/76	Preliminary draft
Builders' hoists	Work started but no papers yet available	
Conveyor-belts	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrically operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Powered industrial trucks	XI/768/76	Preliminary draft
Machine tools and machines		
Common provisions for the working of metals, wood, paper and other materials	XI/216/74 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)656 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives 9/3, 9/4, 9/5)
	COM(77)656 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Crystal Glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (*OJ* 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Proposal withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Precious metals		
Articles made from precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.1.76)
Gas appliances		
Safety and control devices for appliances using gaseous fuels	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Instantaneous production of hot water for sanitary purposes	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Cookers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Gas governors	Work started but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
General directive	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Sampling and methods of analysis	77/535/EEC of 22.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 22.8.77)
	III/213/78 – EN	Preliminary draft adaptation to technical progress
Marketing of high nitrogen content ammonium nitrate based fertiliser	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.1.76)
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Preliminary draft withdrawn with oil pipelines (see above)
Fuels		
Problem of the lead content of petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.1.74)
		Directive adopted but not yet published
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	75/716/EEC of 24.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 27.11.75)
Use of fuel-oils with aim of decreasing sulphurous emissions	COM(75)681 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
	COM(77)407 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastic tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.3.72)
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Flat glass *	XI/437/74	Preliminary draft
	III/1417/77 – EN	Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance *	XI/790/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
	III/1202/77 – EN	Preliminary draft
Water supply equipment	Work was proposed by the tripartite working group but the project was shelved	
Construction products (framework directive) *	III/1098/77 – EN	Preliminary draft
	III/1098/77 – E Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	III/613/78 – E	Draft council resolution on product priorities
Safety of glass products intended for use in buildings (new item) *	III/1438/77 – EN	Preliminary draft
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General directive		
Determination of the noise produced by construction plant and equipment (alteration in title)	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
permissible sound level for pneumatic concrete-breakers and jackhammers		
Permissible sound emission level for tower cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Permissible sound level of grass cutting machines *	XI/28/75 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	III/1584/77 – EN	Preliminary draft
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for welding	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for power supply		
Noise emitted by air compressors	ENV/168/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)121 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C94 of 19.4.78)
Permissible sound emission level for dozers, loaders, and excavators (Site safety)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Roll-over protective structures	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Falling-object protective structures	XI/555/75	Preliminary draft
Dimensions of operators' cabins	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Protecting guards and shields (Road safety)	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
	Work started but no papers yet received	
Tower cranes: safety aspects	Work started but no papers yet received	
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL	Commission proposal
	COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started but no papers yet received	
Braking devices	XI/710/75	Preliminary draft
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
Fuel system integrity	XI/567/75	Preliminary draft

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Non military arms and ammunition	Work started but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
Working metal scaffolds	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft suspended sine die
Packaging materials	Work not yet started	
Education materials	Work not yet started	
Equipment using ionising rays	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Safety helmets for motor vehicle drivers and their passengers	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft
Respiratory protective devices	Work started but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started but no papers yet received	
Boats and their fittings		
Type approval	COM(76)393 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.8.76)
Pleasure craft made of reinforced plastic	XI/592/74	Preliminary draft
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	76/768/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Toys		
Toys safety requirements	XI/288/74	Preliminary draft
Noise in the domestic environment *	ENV/45/78 – FR	Preliminary draft

Food-law harmonisation directives

The following is a list of food-law harmonisation directives, which have been adopted or are under discussion in the European Economic Community.

Further information about the directives may be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE. Food, Room 514, tel. 01-216 6420; food additives, Room 556, tel. 01-216 6186; materials etc, Room 555, tel. 01-216 6059.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Food		
Cocoa and chocolate products	73/241/EEC of 24.7.73	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.73)
	74/411/EEC of 1.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	74/644/EEC of 19.12.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.74)
	75/155/EEC of 4.3.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.3.75)
	76/628/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	4198/VI/76	Preliminary draft
	III/970/77	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)658 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 10.178)
Eurcic acid levels in food	76/621/EEC of 20.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 28.7.76)
Certain sugars	73/437/EEC of 11.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 27.12.73)
	III/797/77	Preliminary draft
Certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk	76/118/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
	COM(77)155 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 25.5.77)
Honey	74/409/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Fruit juices and similar products	75/726/EEC of 17.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 1.12.75)
	III/1575/77	Preliminary draft
Natural mineral waters	COM(70)441 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.6.70)
Foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses	77/94/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Jams, marmalades, fruit jellies	COM(75)419 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 4.9.75)
Coffee extracts and chicory extracts	77/436/EEC of 27.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.77)
Labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs	COM(76)107 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 22.4.76)
Tomato products		
tomato concentrates	1821/VI/76	Preliminary draft
preserved tomatoes	1822/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Processing and handling of quick frozen foods	III/576/77	Preliminary draft
Food additives		
Acids, bases and salts	2607/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Antioxidants	70/357/EEC of 13.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	74/412/EEC of 12.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	78/143/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	COM(76)573 FINAL	Commission proposal on specific criteria of purity
Colouring matters	2645 of 23.10.62	Directive (*OJ* 11.11.62)
	65/469/EEC of 25.10.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.10.65)
	67/653/EEC of 24.10.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.10.67)
	68/419/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/358/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	76/399/EEC of 6.4.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.4.76)
	78/144/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
Emulsifiers, stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents	74/329/EEC of 18.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	COM(77)304 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.10.77)
	COM(77)344 FINAL	Commission proposal on specific criteria of purity
Flavourings	III/79/78	Preliminary draft
Preservatives	64/54/EEC of 5.11.63	Directive (*OJ* 27.1.64)
	65/569/EEC of 23.12.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.65)
	66/722/EEC of 14.12.66	Amending directive (*OJ* 20.12.66)
	67/427/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	68/420/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/359/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	71/160/EEC of 30.3.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.4.71)
	72/2/EEC of 20.12.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 4.1.72)
	72/444/EEC of 26.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 31.12.72)
	74/62/EEC of 17.12.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	74/394/EEC of 22.7.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.7.74)
	76/462/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.5.76)
	76/629/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	78/145/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	65/66/EEC of 26.1.65	Directive on specific criteria of purity for preservatives (*OJ* 9.2.65)
	67/428/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	76/463/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 14.5.76)
Starches	III/973/77	Preliminary draft
Solvents	2373/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Change in title)		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and articles in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73	Preliminary draft
	2637/VI/75	Further preliminary draft
Materials and articles in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs *	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and articles in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs *	3003/VI/74	Preliminary draft
	4235/VI/75	
	980/VI/77	
	COM(78)115 FINAL	Commission proposal
Materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)
	78/142/EEC of 30.1.78	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
Materials and articles in regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	2642/VI/76	Preliminary draft

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842 or 01-215 5879.

Overseas trade news

BOTB holds inward mission forum

Ken Ward, public relations director of Racal Electronics talking at BOTB's inward missions forum.

A half-day forum to exchange views on the running of the inward mission scheme and to encourage more British firms and trade associations to make use of the scheme was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board's overseas visitors bureau on 19 July 1978. Twenty-five representatives of trade associations which had either not been previously involved with the scheme at all or only slightly, attended the event. BOTB says this high turn-out reflects the interest British industry has in the scheme and it also shows that there are various organisations keenly interested in using the scheme to bring to Britain overseas businessmen or others who can influence the purchase of British goods and services in their own countries.

Comparison

So far this year BOTB's overseas visitors bureau has sponsored 39 missions made up of 380 visitors from 60 countries. These figures, say BOTB, compare favourably with last year's totals of 53 missions of 505 visitors from 43 countries. The large number of UK companies which regularly take part in inward missions shows that they regard the scheme as a very valuable means of export promotion.

The forum was chaired by Donald Dick, director of BOTB's special export services section and Miss Gladys Stannard of OVB introduced the scheme and outlined the methods of operation of organising missions.

The first guest speaker, Ted Wallace of the Machine Tool Trades Association, urged the newcomers in the audience to make full use of the scheme as part of their exporting activities and Keith Reading of Industrial and Trade Fairs emphasised the need to bring foreign editors and press representatives to Britain to obtain advance publicity for British exhibitions. Douglas Clayton of the Building Centre gave a short account of the recent missions organised by the centre and gave advice for beginners. He was followed by Jack Farrell who spoke as a mission organiser with the Electrical Components Industry Federation and as a recipient of missions with Mullard. Finally Ken Ward gave an account of his long association with the scheme as the public relations director of the Racal Electronics group.

Inquiries

British firms wishing to take part in the scheme are advised to contact their relevant trade association. General inquiries and requests for a leaflet about the scheme should be addressed to: Inward Missions Section, Overseas Visitors Bureau, British Overseas Trade Board, Export House, 50, Ludgate House, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 463.

Government concerned about US anti-boycott laws

Government concern about the effects of the extraterritorial application of recent United States' anti-boycott legislation on UK companies has led to the need for discussions between the Department of Trade and the United States' administration.

In reply to a parliamentary question on 26 July, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said that the government considered that this legislation would have an adverse effect on UK trade and employment.

Contact

Any UK company which believes that it may be affected by this legislation should contact the Department of Trade or its nearest regional office as soon as possible. A note for firms covering the main points is available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division 2/1, Department of Trade, Room 419, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5629, and all regional offices. For the text of the parliamentary answer see page 259.

British packaging companies expect £8m from Interpack

Export orders worth over £8 million are expected by British companies during the next two years through taking part last month at Interpack, Dusseldorf, the largest packaging exhibition in the world. In addition over £400,000 of orders were taken by companies during the event. This success has been reported by 56 companies which took part in a joint venture organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Institute of Packaging at the Interpack exhibition.

Ron Watkins, chief executive of the Institute of Packaging, said that the amount of business produced by this the institute's biggest joint venture participation at any overseas event was a tribute to the determination of British packaging machinery and material manufacturers fully to exploit their export potential. Mr Watkin's said that early indications of space requirements by British companies for Interpack '81 provided further evidence of the value to the keen manufacturing concern of joint-venture participation with BOTB and the Institute of Packaging.

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Afghanistan, Bermuda, Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands, Canada, Denmark and Liberia, have been published.

British exporters can order these booklets by post, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, from the Department of Trade, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, at £1 per copy, plus postage and packing as follows: one copy 20p, two to four copies 30p, five to seven copies 40p, more than seven copies post free.

Copies may also be purchased by personal callers at Export House and at the offices of the Department of Industry at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Cockermouth, Manchester, Leeds, Nottingham, Birmingham, Bristol; from the Scottish and Welsh Offices and from the Department of Commerce, Belfast.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

OPG in £4 billion contracts worldwide

Copies of the report (see *Trade and Industry*, 21 July, page 137) and a leaflet on the work of OPG can be obtained free of charge from the Overseas Projects Group, Room 440, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3629, from Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, or from any of the Department of Industry's regional offices.

New SBTC VP

Bernard Buckman has been appointed a second vice-president of the Sino-British Trade Council, an area advisory group for the British Overseas Trade Board. Mr Buckman is chairman of Wogen-Buckton Group.

Inward mission sees hand tools

A 20-man inward mission from Australia visited the UK from 24 June to 13 July to see the British hand tools industry. The members of the mission spent three weeks mainly in the Birmingham and Sheffield areas visiting production plants in the industry. They visited many factories concerned with the manufacture of cast-iron, steel forged or pressed, and precision engineered tools.

The mission was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Federation of British hand-tool manufacturers and the Federation of British Engineers Tool Manufacturers.

The mission was accompanied by Mr P. Turnbull a commercial officer at the British consulate-general in Sydney. He received the MBE in the Queen's birthday honours for work on behalf of British commercial interests. He has been in the employment of the British government in Australia for 16 years.

Mr P. Turnbull, who recently received the MBE, with members of the Australian inward mission at a mini-exhibition held in Bamford, Derbyshire.

ECGD backs nuclear loan

The repayment and funding for a $200 million loan, arranged by SG Warburg on behalf of an international syndicate of 10 banks to Empresas Nucleares Brasileiras SA (Nuclebras), of Brazil, is being guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The loan will help finance the $235 million UK portion of a contract awarded by Nuclebras to Urenco for nuclear fuel enrichment services.

Urenco is an Anglo-Dutch-German consortium in which British Nuclear Fuels is a partner. Finance from the loan will be drawn down during the period 1982-87.

Prospects for UK-USSR co-operation outlined by energy minister

Significant prospects now exist for co-operation between the UK and the Soviet Union in the exploitation of offshore petroleum deposits. This point was made by Dr J. Dickson Mabon, Minister of State for Energy, speaking at a luncheon meeting of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, on 20 July.

Dr Mabon said that UK experience of operating in the difficult conditions of the North Sea would be particularly valuable in the Soviet Union's exploration for oil in the Caspian and Barents Seas.

Dr Mabon pointed out that UK manufacturers and suppliers had been able to gain over 60 per cent of the orders placed for goods and services for the UK sector of the North Sea.

Dr Mabon continued that this had been achieved through the participation of a wide range of companies, of different size and specialism, both individually and in associations and joint ventures, on occasions involving overseas companies.

'Within the government,' Dr Dickson Mabon said, 'the Offshore Supplies Office continues to provide a channel of communication for the industry on overseas market opportunities in offshore oil and gas developments, working closely with other departments, and various professional and trade associations.'

He said that this should mean, therefore, that significant prospects now existed for co-operation between the UK and the Soviet Union, in the exploitation of offshore petroleum deposits.

Experience in operating

The UK's experience of operating in the difficult conditions of the North Sea, the English Channel and the western approaches, as well as the experience gained by British companies working in Alaska, would be particularly valuable in the Soviet Union's exploration for oil in the Caspian and Barents Seas, where the extreme conditions, both in climate and depths of water, were comparable, he continued.

Dr Dickson Mabon pointed out that British companies, as members of the International Oil Consortium, were already in negotiation for a contract to assist in setting up fabrication facilities for production platforms and modules on the Caspian Sea. The discussions were well advanced, and he was hopeful that the announcement of the award of the contract would be made later this year.

He said that if an energy crisis did arise, it would affect not just one nation, or group of nations; its repercussions would be worldwide – even for the Soviet Union, which was the world's leading energy producer, and had the highest reserves of fossil fuels in the world. Equally, the prevention, or resolution, of the crisis had also to be on a global scale.

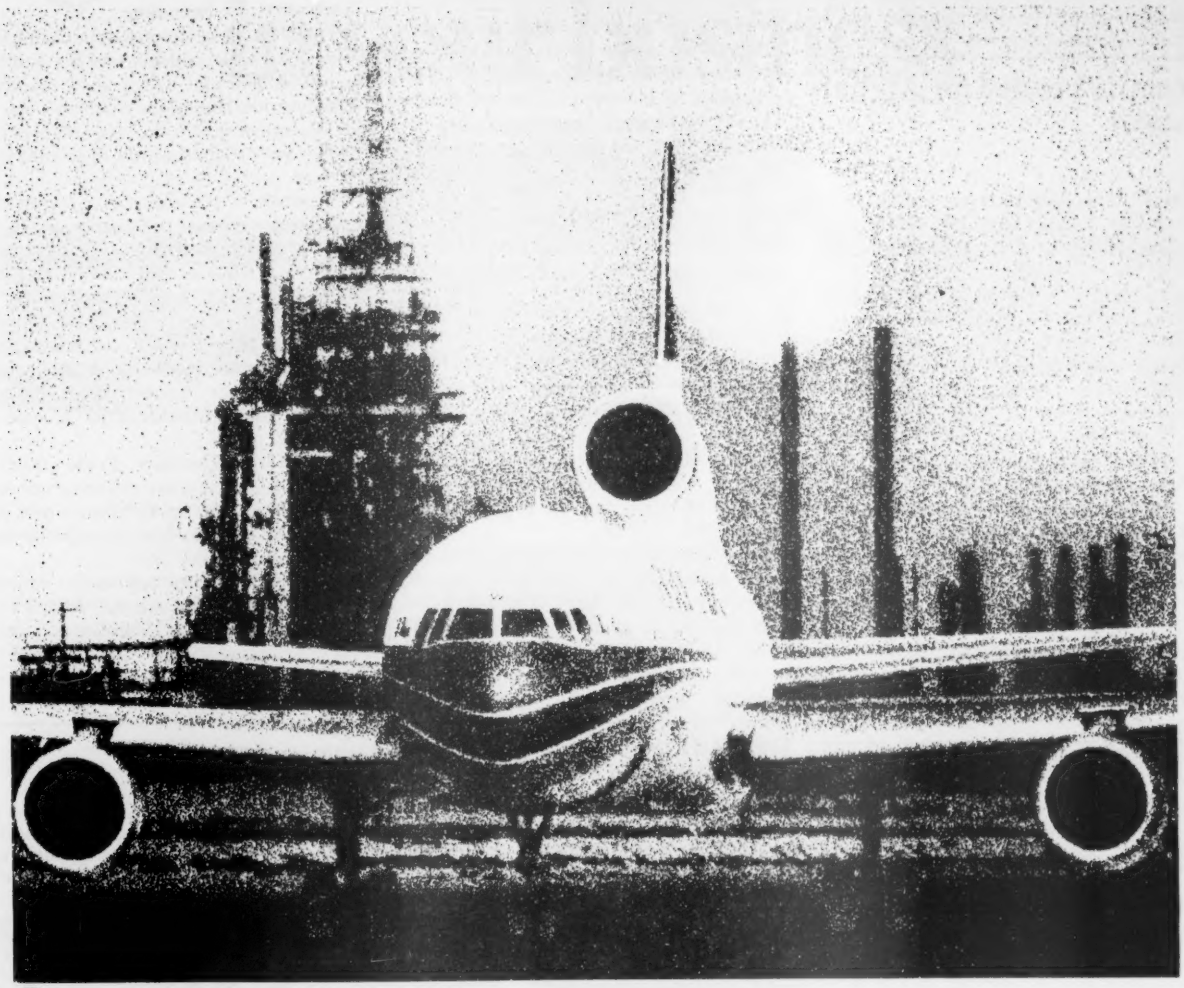
'If we are to find an effective, and long-

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional officers of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

The Gulf. A new world. Gulf Air is part of it.



FP1

Within a decade, the states fringing the eastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula have become a new world. Rich in themselves, rich in opportunity. Fast developing into international trading and financial centres. Breeding new industries.

Gulf Air is a part of that new world. An international airline flying the most modern equipment, including Lockheed TriStars and the advanced Boeing 737-200. A regional airline serving more destinations throughout the Gulf than any other airline. An airline unique in its offer of Golden Falcon Service.

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lasting solution we need greater international co-operation in energy technology, both in exploitation and conservation; as important, we need freer exchanges of information on each nation's energy resources, requirements and prospects,' he said.

'Such a global dialogue should lead to the most effective overall deployment of scarce skills and technologies, in order to overcome the problem. With a better awareness of each other's problems comes a greater opportunity for co-operation, and with that come new and exciting chances for trade between us,' Dr Dickson Mabon concluded.

Permits needed for Afghan transit

Permits are now needed for foreign transport vehicles to get into and pass through Afghanistan.

Vehicles with a capacity exceeding 5000 kg cargo or 20 passengers are required to obtain permits from the authorities in their country of origin.

Drivers arriving at the Afghanistan border without a permit are at present being required to purchase one for about £60 and there is a likelihood of more severe penalties for those travelling without them in the future.

Permits are obtainable for UK goods and passenger vehicle operators from the International Road Freight Office (Irfo), Westgate House, Westgate Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

Irfo hold only a limited quantity of permits – although the Ministry of Commerce in Kabul have been asked for further supplies – so that for the present they will be issued only for journeys to be made within one month of the date of application.

Aid for Indian fertiliser plant

Britain is granting India £15 million to help build an urea fertiliser plant at Namrup in Assam Province in the east of the country. The aid will be tied to the purchase of goods and services from Britain.

The Indian government aims to achieve self-sufficiency in nitrogen fertiliser and this new plant, to be built alongside two existing plants, will help to achieve this goal. It will have an annual capacity of 330 000 tons and is due to be commissioned in 1981.

ODM training course for overseas officials

Senior officials from the developing world are being sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Development on a 12-week course in staff training techniques which began at the Royal Institute of Public Administration in London last Monday (31 July).

The officials, 20 in number, are from Antigua, Bangladesh, Barbados, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Thailand and Zambia.

The course is designed to help the participants with their teaching techniques. It is also intended to help them to design training courses in their own countries.

The syllabus includes a study of the nature of public administration; the organisation and management of training; training in industry; the preparation and use of case studies; lecture practices; and the use of audio-visual aids.

UK aids Barbados

Britain is to provide the Caribbean island of Barbados with an aid loan of £850,000 to help strengthen its balance of payments position. The aid will be used to purchase a wide range of essential imports of goods and equipment from Britain.

The loan will be repayable over 25 years with a three-year grace period and is at 6 per cent interest. It will count as part of Britain's contribution to the Caribbean development facility which was established at the first meeting of the Caribbean group for co-operation in economic development held under World Bank auspices in Washington last month.

UK-Denmark double taxation

Agreement has been reached at official level on a text to replace the 1950 double taxation agreement between the UK and Denmark. The text will be submitted to both governments and if approved, it will, after signature, be published in due course as a schedule to a draft order in council.

Birmingham plans Colombia and Panama mission

At the request of the British embassies in Colombia and Panama, the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce is taking a mission to these countries from 18 November to 2 December.

This is the second time that the chamber has visited Colombia, which it says is a country of enormous potential and a good market for British goods. During the chamber's last visit in the summer of 1976, orders worth over £1.25 million were secured within 12 months of the mission.

Birmingham chamber has not previously sponsored a mission to Panama, but it feels that the timing of this visit is thought to be ideal as UK relations with Panama have never been better.

Apart from consumer goods there will be specific opportunities for British companies in agricultural machinery, automative spares, scientific and control instruments, electrical machinery, and equipment for oil and gas industries.

The British Overseas Trade Board is supporting and there are still some vacancies for companies who would like to take part, although the closing date for applications is 18 August.

Full details and an application form are available from Bryan Carnes, Overseas Trade Division, Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, PO Box 360, 75 Harborne Road, Birmingham B15 3DH, tel. 021-454 6171 ext. 206.

BOTB chairman visits Milthorp

Sir Frederick Catherwood (right), chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board inspecting a casing-in machine during his visit to the offices and factory of Milthorp International in Wakefield on 11 July. Milthorp claims to be the world's largest supplier of used and rebuilt printing, paper and plastic converting machinery. With Sir Frederick are an employee (left) of an overseas client receiving in-house training, Terry Timpson, engineer, and David Hulme, chairman of Milthorp.

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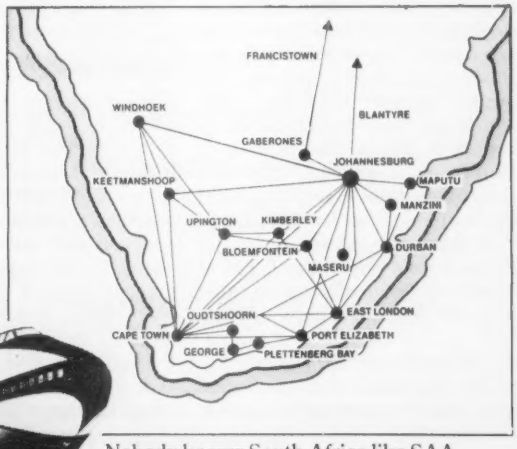

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Or at Waterloo Street, Birmingham, 021-643 9605. Hope Street, Glasgow, 041-221 2932. Peter Street, Manchester, 061-834 4436.

Imco agrees seafarers' basic requirement convention

The first convention ever to establish basic requirements on training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers at an international level was adopted on 6 July at a conference organised by the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (Imco), the United Nations' maritime agency. The final act of the conference was adopted on 7 July. The conference, which opened on 14 June, was the largest ever held by Imco, and was attended by 460 delegates from 74 countries, inter-governmental organisations, and international bodies which have consultative status with Imco. We report on the details of the new convention.

The main achievement of the conference was the adoption of the international convention on standards of training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers, together with 23 resolutions, many of which reinforce the convention by recommending additional procedures.

The convention, like most recent Imco conventions, incorporates the 'tacit acceptance' procedure designed to speed up the process of amending and up-dating. Amendments will be considered as adopted two years after they have been communicated to contracting parties unless one-third of the parties, or parties owning 50 per cent of the world's gross tonnage, object.

The convention is expected to be of particular benefit to the developing countries. Many of the more established maritime nations have already evolved their own training, certification and watchkeeping standards which are often in excess of those laid down in the convention and related recommendations. The convention does not attempt to lay down the highest possible standards, but it does establish for the first time basic regulations which can be accepted by all maritime nations.

Although the convention deals with crews rather than the ships themselves it is regarded as one of the most important ever adopted by Imco. The majority of accidents at sea are caused by human error rather than failure of equipment and it is confidently expected that the convention will do much to improve safety at sea.

The technical provisions of the convention are divided into three main sections, dealing with the deck department, engine department and radio department.

Deck department

This outlines basic principles to be observed in keeping a navigational watch.

It lays down mandatory minimum requirements for the certification of masters, chief mates and officers in charge of navigational watches on ships of 200 gross registered tons (grt) or more. Other regulations deal with mandatory minimum requirements for officers in charge of navigational watches and masters of ships of less than 200 grt and for ratings forming part of a navigational watch.

It also includes regulations designed to ensure the continued proficiency and updating of knowledge for masters and deck officers.

A syllabus is outlined designed for the examination of candidates for certification as master or chief mate on ships of 200 grt or more. It covers such matters as navigation and position determination, watchkeeping, radar equipment, compasses (magnetic and gyro), meteorology and oceanography, ship manoeuvring and handling, ship stability, construction and damage control, ship power plants, cargo handling and stowage, fire prevention and firefighting appliances, emergency procedures, medical care, maritime law, personnel management and training responsibilities, communications, life-saving, search and rescue, and methods for demonstration of proficiency.

Quotes . . .

Mr C. P. Srivastava, Imco's secretary-general

'It is a major step forwards ensuring improved maritime safety, particularly safety of navigation and protection of the environment, because it has been recognised that over 80 per cent of maritime accidents are caused by human error. With improved training standards generally accepted and implemented the human element on board ships should hereafter be much better equipped to avoid maritime casualties.'

Tage Madsen of Denmark, chairman of the sub-committee on standards of training and watchkeeping which prepared the draft convention and president of the conference.

'The convention is the first step in the shipping world towards establishing certain minimum requirements for masters, officers and ratings.'

Engine department

This outlines the basic principles to be observed in keeping an engineering watch. It includes mandatory minimum requirements for certification of chief and second engineer officers of ships with main propulsion machinery of 3000 kW or more and for ships of between 750 kW and 3000 kW.

Mandatory minimum requirements are also laid down for the certification of engineer officers in charge of a watch in a traditionally manned engine room, or the designated engineer in a periodically unmanned engine room.

Another regulation is designed to ensure the continued proficiency and updating of knowledge of engineer officers, and the chapter also establishes mandatory minimum requirements for ratings forming part of an engine room watch.

Radio department

This deals with radio watchkeeping and maintenance. It establishes mandatory minimum requirements for certification of radio officers and radio operators, and requirements to ensure their continued proficiency and updating of knowledge.

Another regulation establishes mandatory minimum requirements for certification of radiotelephone operators.

Tankers

This chapter deals with mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualification of masters, officers and ratings of oil tankers. This did not appear in the draft convention, which was prepared by Imco's sub-committee on standards of training and watchkeeping, but was developed during the conference itself, largely as a result of a resolution adopted by the international conference on tanker safety and pollution prevention in February, and subsequent initiatives by the UK.

Also included are mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualification of masters, officers and ratings of chemical tankers and liquefied gas tankers.

These regulations are reinforced by three resolutions dealing with the training and qualification of officers and crews of such ships. The resolutions outline in greater detail the type of knowledge which is required by officers and crews.

Survival craft

This chapter is concerned with mandatory minimum requirements for the issue of certificates of proficiency in survival craft.

Entry into force

The convention will come into force 12 months after being accepted by 25 states owning between them 50 per cent of the world's gross tonnage of merchant shipping.

UK experts advise Panama on ship safety

Two experts from Marine Division of the Department of Trade have gone to the Republic of Panama to advise the Panamanian shipping administration on various aspects of marine safety. The trip is organised by the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation.

Dr Jim Cowley, engineer surveyor in chief, and Roy Bisley, ship surveyor, will spend up to four weeks in Panama and, on their return, will compile a report on their findings. Their study, which will take some six weeks in all, is the first to be set up under the Marine Safety Corps – originally a British proposal aimed at developing standards of safety among administrations equal to the best now obtaining.

Welcoming this development Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, said he hoped that the trip would be seen as a powerful precedent and incentive for further practical co-operation between experienced maritime nations and those with fewer resources and less expertise; co-operation to attain a common objective of the highest standards of safety at sea.

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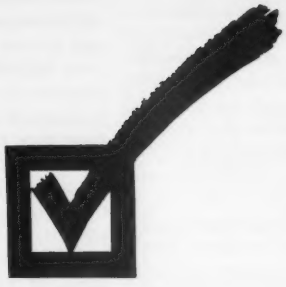

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BRUSSELS,
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B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
513.01.49 and 513.54.05
Cable MARPORT; Telex 26862

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1693: Letters of credit

Before an importer instructs his UK bankers to open a letter of credit for goods whose importation into the UK requires an individual import licence, he must be in a position to satisfy his bank that he holds the necessary licence.

Up to now, this requirement has not been applied to goods subject to surveillance arrangements and for which licences marked 'surveillance' are issued. However, following the increase announced in notice to importers 1694 (*Trade and Industry*, 4 August) in the validity period for textile surveillance licences, this waiver is being withdrawn from 14 August 1978 for all goods for which surveillance licences have a validity of three months or more.

The waiver still, however, applies in the case of goods for which surveillance licences have a validity of less than three months, and also in the case of goods imported under the authority of the open general import licence, 1977, without the need for an individual licence.

This notice supersedes notice to importers 1528 (*Trade and Industry*, 19 December 1975).

1694: Surveillance licensing of textiles

Most yarns, fabrics, clothing and made-up textiles, of all main textile fibres and the basic man-made fibres (unless subject to quantitative restrictions, in which case other arrangements apply) require a surveillance import licence for importation into the UK if consigned from any country or territory outside the EEC. The surveillance licensing arrangements have recently been reviewed in the light of their operation over the past several years and a number of changes are to be introduced on 4 August 1978. This notice restates the coverage of the textiles surveillance arrangements and indicates licensing requirements which will apply from that date. The principal changes from the arrangments previously in force are listed at the end of the notice.

Licensing arrangements

Imports of goods listed in the annex to this notice which are subject to quantitative restrictions if they originate in certain countries will continue to be licensed under the arrangements set out in the applicable notices to importers, currently 1649 (*Trade and Industry* 6 January 1978), 1654 (20 January 1978), 1661 (10 February 1978), 1674 (14 April 1978) and 1685 (23 June 1978). Listed goods which are not subject to quantitative restrictions require an individual import licence if they are of non-EEC origin and are consigned to the UK from any country or territory outside the EEC. For such goods, import licences endorsed 'Surveillance' will be issued freely on application subject to the provision of certain specified information as indicated below.

Exceptionally, textile goods otherwise subject to surveillance are exempted from the requirement for an individual import licence if the total cif value of the consugnment does not exceed £500. For this purpose 'consignment' comprises, for example, a batch of goods sent by one consignor to one importer and covered by one bill of lading or one airwaybill. The open general import licence (Ogil) has been amended to provide that consignments which qualify for exemption from individual licensing under these terms may be imported into the UK under the authority of the Ogil.

Applications for surveillance import licences should be made, on form ILB/A, to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade, at the above address. The application must be accompanied by clear evidence of a firm intention to import the goods within the period for which a licence may be issued; this evidence should take the form of copies of contract or order documents, although in certain cases copies of correspondence having a similar effect may be accepted as satisfactory evidence.

Surveillance import licences for textiles will be valid for three months from the date of issue except in the case of goods certified as being the product of a cottage industry, in which case the validity of import licences will continue to be two months. Applications should cover only those imports scheduled to arrive in the UK during the validity of the licence. In all cases, application should be made for a licence before the goods are shipped; form ILB/A carries a warning to importers not to authorise shipment before obtaining a licence.

In addition to the information required to complete form ILB/A, and the evidence of firm order or contract mentioned above, applicants must specify on pages 3 and 5 of form ILB/A:

1 Under 'Description of goods':
a whether the goods are mill-made, or the product of a cottage industry.
b in the case of men's shirts (tariff headings 60.04 and 61.03) whether they are short-sleeved or long-sleeved.
c in the case of yarn of man-made fibres within tariff heading 56.05 and woven fabrics of man-made fibres, of sheep's or lambs' wool or of fine animal hair within tariff headings 51.04, 53.11 or 56.07, the percentage breakdown, in generic terms, of the fibre content of the goods (eg 55 per cent polyester, 45 per cent lambs' wool).
2 Under 'Tariff heading', the appropriate eight-digit tariff/ trade code number. A separate application form should be completed in respect of each eight-digit number. (In case of doubt as to the appropriate classification number, importers should consult the local office of HM Customs and Excise.
3 Under 'Quantity', the amounts expressed in the unit(s) of quantity shown against the relevant eight-digit tariff trade code number in HM Customs and Excise tariff. Where two units of quantity are shown, both should be used.

The information obtained under the surveillance licensing arrangements is used by the Department of Trade and/or the EEC commission for statistical purposes, enabling a watch to be kept on import trends, and in relation to the administration of import policy. It is therefore in the general interests of traders to assist in ensuring that the department's statistics are as accurate as possible; to this end, importers should ensure that their applications cover only those goods which are to be shipped to reach the UK during the validity of the licence and that:

a licences not fully used at the expiry of their validity; and

b unused or partially used licences which are no longer required for the purpose of importing goods before the licences expire;

are returned immediately to Import Licensing Branch to enable the department's statistical record to be adjusted accordingly.

Where a second application is made because, for example, a shipment is delayed and the goods will not in the event arrive until the initial licence has expired, this should be clearly indicated on the application and the first licence should be returned for cancellation.

Principal changes

Principal changes to the previous arrangements are:

a textile surveillance import licences (other than for certified products of a cottage industry) will be issued with a validity of three months (previously two);

b information as to the percentage breakdown of fibre content, previously required for all textiles subject to surveillance, is now required only in respect of goods of the four tariff headings set out at 1c above;

c an individual import licence is no longer required for textiles otherwise subject to surveillance if the total cif value of the consignment does not exceed £500;

d unrestricted goods of EEC origin no longer require an individual import licence irrespective of the country from which they are consigned;

e the requirement for clear evidence of a firm intention to import the goods during the period for which the licence applied for will be valid will be more stringently enforced.

See also notice to importers 1693 (in this issue) about letters of credit.

This notice supersedes notices to importers 1484 and 1502 (*Trade and Industry* 28 March 1975 and 8 August 1975).

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 exts 241/249/291/292/300.

Annex

Tariff heading/Description of goods

ex 39.07
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories made up of textile fabric coated or covered on both sides with artificial plastic material.
50.04
Silk yarn, other than yarn of noil or other waste silk, not put up for retail sale.
50.05
Yarn spun from noil or other waste silk, not put up for retail sale.
ex 50.07
Silk yarn, other than yarn of noil or other waste silk, not put up for retail sale.
50.09
Woven fabrics of silk, of noil or other waste silk.
51.01
Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous), not put up for retail sale.
51.03
Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous), put up for retail sale.
51.04
Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous), including woven fabrics of monofil or strip of heading No. 51.01 or 51.02.
52.01
Metallised yarn, being textile yarn spun with metal or covered with metal by any process.
52.02
Woven fabrics of metal thread or of metallised yarn, of a kind used in articles of apparel, as furnishing fabrics or the like.
53.06
Yarn of carded sheep's or lambs' wool (woollen yarn), not put up for retail sale.
53.07
Yarn of combed sheep's or lambs' wool (worsted yarn), not put up for retail sale.
53.08
Yarn of fine animal hair (carded or combed), not put up for retail sale.
53.10
Yarn of sheep's or lambs' wool, of horsehair or of other animal hair (fine or coarse), put up for retail sale.
53.11
Woven fabrics of sheep's or lambs' wool or of fine animal hair.
54.03
Flax or ramie yarn, not put up for retail sale.
54.04
Flax or ramie yarn, put up for retail sale.
54.05
Woven fabrics of flax or of ramie.

Tariff heading/Description of goods
55.05 Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale.
55.06 Cotton yarn, put up for retail sale.
55.07 Cotton gauze
55.08 Terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, of cotton.
55.09 Other woven fabrics of cotton.
56.01 Man-made fibres (discontinuous), not carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning.
56.02 Continuous filament tow for the manufacture of man-made fibres (discontinuous).
56.03 Waste (including yarn waste and pulled or garnetted rags) of man-made fibres (continuous or discontinuous), not carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning.
56.04 Man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning.
56.05 Yarn of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), not put up for retail sale.
56.06 Yarn of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), put up for retail sale.
56.07 Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste).
57.06 Yarn of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No. 57.03.
ex 57.07 Yarn of other vegetable textile fibres.
57.10 Woven fabrics of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No. 57.03.
ex 57.11 Woven fabrics of other vegetable textile fibres.
58.04 Woven pile fabrics and chenille fabrics (other than terry towelling or similar terry fabrics of cotton falling within heading No. 55.08 and fabrics falling within heading No. 58.05).
58.05 Narrow woven fabrics, and narrow fabrics (bolduc) consisting or warp without weft assembled by means of an adhesive, other than goods falling within heading No. 58.06.
58.06 Woven labels, badges and the like, not embroidered, in the piece, in strips or cut to shape or size.
58.07 Chenille yarn (including flock chenille yarn), gimped yarn (other than metallised yarn of heading No. 52.01 and gimped horsehair yarn); braids and ornamental trimmimgs in the piece; tassels, pompons and the like.
58.08 Tulle and other net fabrics (but not including woven, knitted or crocheted fabrics), plain.
58.09 Tulle and other net fabrics (but not including woven, knitted or crocheted fabrics), figured; hand or mechanically made lace, in the piece, in strips or in motifs.
58.10 Embroidery, in the piece, in strips or in motifs.
59.04 Twine, cordage, ropes and cables, plaited or not.
59.05 Nets and netting made of twine, cordage or rope, and made up fishing nets of yarn, twine, cordage or rope.
59.06 Other articles made from yarn, twine, cordage, rope or cables, other than textile fabrics and articles made from such fabrics.
59.07 Textile fabrics coated with gum or amylaceous substances, of a kind used for the outer covers of books and the like; tracing cloth; prepared painting canvas; buckram and similar fabrics for hat foundations and similar uses.
59.08 Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with preparations of cellulose derivatives or of other artificial plastic materials.
59.11 Rubberised textile fabrics, other than rubberised knitted or crocheted goods.
59.12 Textile fabrics otherwise impregnated or coated; painted canvas being theatrical scenery, studio back-cloths or the like.
59.13 Elastic fabrics and trimmings (other than knitted or crocheted goods) consisting of textile materials combined with rubber threads.
60.01 Knitted or crocheted fabric, not elastic nor rubberised.
60.02 Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised.
60.03 Stockings, under stockings, socks, ankle-socks, sockettes and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised.
60.04 Under garments, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised.
60.05 Outer garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised.

Tariff heading/Description of goods
60.06 Knitted or crocheted fabric and articles thereof, elastic or rubberised (including elastic knee-caps and elastic stockings).
60.01 Men's and boys' outer garments.
61.02 Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments.
61.03 Men's and boys' under garments, including collars, shirt fronts and cuffs.
61.04 Women's, girls' and infants' under garments.
61.05 Handkerchiefs.
61.06 Shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils and the like.
61.07 Ties, bow ties and cravats.
61.09 Corsets, corset-belts, suspender-belts, brassières, braces, suspenders, garters and the like (including such articles of knitted or crocheted fabric), whether or not elastic.
61.10 Gloves, mittens, mitts, stockings, socks and sockettes, not being knitted or crocheted goods.
61.11 Made up accessories for articles of apparel (for example, dress shields, shoulder and other pads, belts, muffs, sleeve protectors, pockets).
62.01 Travelling rugs and blankets
62.02 Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen; curtains and other furnishing articles.
62.03 Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods.
62.04 Tarpaulins, sails, awnings, sunblinds, tents and camping goods.
ex 62.05 Other made up textile articles (including dress patterns), other than fans and hand screens.

1695: Surveillance licensing of non-textiles

Certain non-textile products, which are not subject to quantitative restrictions, require a surveillance import licence for importation into the UK if they originate in specified countries and are consigned from any country or territory outside the EEC. In certain cases the surveillance arrangements are community-wide, in others they are applied nationally. This notice re-states the coverage of the surveillance arrangements applying to non-textile products and indicates current licensing requirements.

Licensing arrangements

Imports of goods listed in the annex to this notice which are subject to quantitative restrictions if they originate in certain countries will continue to be licences under the arrangements set out in the applicable notices to importers (currently 1623 (*Trade and Industry*, 29 July 1977), 1628 (26 August 1977), 1648 (23 December 1977), 1651 (6 January 1978 and 1654 (20 January 1978). Listed goods which are not subject to quantitative restrictions require an individual import licence if they:

a originate in any of the sources indicated in the annex; and
b are consigned to the UK from any country or territory outside the EEC.

For such goods, import licences endorsed 'surveillance' will be issued freely on application, subject to the provision of certain specified information.

Applications for surveillance import licences should be made, on form ILB/A, to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade, at the address above. In the cases indicated in the annex, the application must be accompanied by clear evidence of a firm intention to import the goods within the period for which a licence may be issued; this evidence should take the form of copies of contract or order documents, although in certain cases copies of correspondence having a similar effect may be accepted as satisfactory evidence.

In general, surveillance import licences will be valid for three months from the date of issue; however, the validity period for surveillance licences for electronic calculators is currently six months and for certain iron and steel products it is currently one month. Application should cover over only those imports scheduled to arrive in the UK during the validity of the licence. In all cases, application should be made for a licence before the goods are shipped; form ILB/A carries a warning to importers not to authorise shipment before obtaining a licence.

In addition to the information required to complete form ILB/A, applicants must specify the addtional information noted against the particular products in the annex.

The information obtained under the surveillance licensing arrangements is used by the Department of Trade and/or the EEC commission for statistical purposes, enabling a watch to be kept on import trends, and in relation to the administration of import policy. It is therefore in the general interests of traders to assist in ensuring that the department's statistics are as accurate as possible; so, importers should ensure that their applications cover only those goods which are to be shipped to reach the UK during the validity of the licence and that:

a licences not fully used at the expiry of their validity; and
b unused or partially used licences which are no longer required for the purpose of importing goods before the licences expire; are returned immediately to Import Licensing Branch to enable the department's statistical record to be adjusted accordingly.

Where a second application is made because, for example, shipment is delayed and the goods will not in the event arrive until the initial licence has expired, this should be clearly indicated on the application, and the first licence should be returned for cancellation.

This notice supersedes NTI's 1397, 1447, 1478, 1490, 1531, 1535, 1605, 1616, 1629, 1630, 1632, 1650, 1671.

In addition, a notice to importers, 1696, sets out the up-to-date arrangements for the surveillance of imports of certain iron and steel products is being published separately since its annexes, which are referred to in this notice may need to be amended from time to time.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 270/276/278/388/389/391.

Annex

The following goods, if they are of non-EEC origin (or, in the case of phosphate fertilisers and footwear, if they originate in the sources indicated) and are consigned to the UK from any country or territory outside the EEC, may be imported only under an individual surveillance import licence:

Tariff heading	Description of goods	Notes
	Phosphate fertilisers, the following:	
ex 31.03	Superphosphates	
ex 31.05	Other fertilisers the following: Monoammonium and diammonium orthophosphates and mixtures thereof	A, B

Tariff heading/Description of goods		Notes
	originating in any country or territory outside the EEC *other than Albania, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic and Berlin (East), Hungary, Mongolia, North Korea, Poland, Romania, USSR, Vietnam*	
	Footwear, the following:	
64.01	Footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or artificial plastic material	C, D, K
64.02	Footwear with outer soles of leather or composition leather; footwear (other than footwear falling within heading 64.01) with outer soles of rubber or artificial plastic material	
64.03	Footwear with outer soles of wood or cork	
64.04	Footwear with outer soles of other materials originating in Brazil, Hong kong, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Taiwan or the State Trading area	
	Iron and steel products, the following:	
(i) ex 73.01	Pig iron and cast iron *other than spiegeleisen*	A, B, E, L (Licences are currently valid for one month)
ex 73.02	Ferro-manganese containing more than 2 per cent by weight of carbon (high carbon ferro-manganese)	
ex 73.07	Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars (including tinplate bars), of iron or steel, *other than forged*	
73.08	Iron or steel coils for re-rolling	
ex 73.10	Wire rod, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded	
ex 73.10	Reinforcing bars, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded	
ex 73.10	Bars *other than reinforcing bars and hollow mining drill steel* and rods *other than wire rod*, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded	
ex 73.11	Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, *other than sheet piling*	
ex 73.12	Hoop and strip, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled	
ex 73.13	'Electrical' sheets and plates, of iron or steel, *other than those with a watt-loss, regardless of thickness, of 0.75 watt or less*	
ex 73.13	Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled and of a thickness of 2 mm or more	
ex 73.13	Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness of more than 1 mm but less than 3 mm, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates*	
ex 73.13	Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness of 1 mm or less *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates*	
ex 73.13	Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, zinc-coated or lead-coated, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates*	
ex 73.15	Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars, of high carbon steel or alloy steel, *other than forged*	
ex 73.15	Wire rod, of high carbon steel or alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded	
ex 73.15	Bars, rods *other than wire rod*, hollow mining drill steel, angles shapes and sections of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded	
ex 73.15	'Electrical' sheets and plates, of alloy steel, *other than those with a watt-loss, regardless of thickness, of 0.75 watt or less*	
ex 73.15	Sheets and plates, of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates*	
ex 73.15	Sheets and plates, of alloy steel, not further worked than cold-rolled and of a thickness of less than 3 mm, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates*	

Tariff heading/Description of goods		Notes
(ii) 73.14	Iron or steel wire, whether or not coated, but not insulated	C, F, K, L,
ex 73.15	Wire, of high carbon steel, whether or not coated, but not insulated	
ex 73.15	Ingots, blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars, of alloy steel, forged	
ex 73.15	Pieces of alloy steel, roughly shaped by forging	
ex 73.15	Bars rods (including wire rod) and hollow mining drill steel, of alloy steel, not further worked than forged	
ex 73.15	Bars, rods (including wire rod), of alloy steel, not further worked than cold formed or cold-finished, *other than bars and rods of free-cutting and silico-manganese steel and hollow mining drill steel*	
* ex 73.15	Bars, rods (including wire rod) and hollow mining drill steel, of stainless and heat-resisting alloy steel, hot-rolled or extruded but not further worked than clad	
ex 73.15	Bars, rods (including wire rod) and hollow mining drill steel, of stainless and heat-resisting alloy steel, cold-formed or cold-finished but not further worked than clad	
ex 73.15	Bars, rods (including wire rod) and hollow mining drill steel of stainless and heat-resisting alloy steel, clad or surface-worked (for example polished, coated), *other than those not further worked than clad*	
ex 73.18	Tubes and pipes and blanks therefor, of iron (other than of cast iron) or steel, excluding high-pressure hydro-electric conduits, within subheading 73.18 C of the common customs tariff of the European Economic Community	
	Cutlery, the following	C. G. K. J
82.09	Knives with cutting blades, serrated or not, (including pruning knives) other than knives falling within heading no. 82.06 and blades therefor	
82.12	Scissors (including tailors' shears) and blades therefor	
82.14	Spoons, forks, fish-eaters, butter-knives, ladles and similar kitchen or tableware	
82.15	Handles of base metal for articles falling within heading no. 82.09, 82.13 or 82.14	
	Electronic calculating machines, the following:	
ex 84.52	Electronic calculating machines with four operations namely addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, whether or not capable of performing other operations or functions, and having a display or printing capacity of 10 or more digits	
	Television receivers and tubes, the following:	C, H
ex 85.15	Monochrome television receivers with cathode-ray tubes whose bulb diagonal measurement is 38 cm or less (including those incorporating gramophones or other sound reproducers), *other than parts*	
ex 85.15	Colour television receivers of the domestic or portable type or designed or adapted for fitting to motor vehicles (including those incorporating gramophones or other sound reproducers) *other than parts*	
ex 85.21	Television receiver cathode-ray colour tubes, *other than parts*	
	Zip fasteners, the following:	
98.02	Slide fasteners and parts thereof	A, M

Country of origin of goods

Product*	Description of chain: Material (eg nylon aluminium)	Width (mm)	Length (in./ft.)	Weight of other metal parts (lb)	Unit price (£ cif)	Total quantity (no. or weight	Total value (£ cif)

Notes In addition to the information to be entered on form ILB/A, applicants must specify:

A the intended date or dates of importation.

B the intended place or places of importation.

C the application must be accompanied by clear evidence or a firm intention to import the goods, as specified under 'licensing arrangements' above.

D for footwear, the number of pairs of shoes for which the licence is required.

E for iron and steel products in group i:

a a copy of the purchase contract or contracts which constitute the grounds for the application;

b for products originating in the third countries listed in annex 1 to NTI 1696 the product description so far as commercial usage is concerned as well as all the characteristics of the contract which have led to the fixing of the delivery price at destination;

c for products originating in other third countries, a full description (including relevant technical specifications) and an indication of the corresponding or closest heading in terms of the list in annex 2 to NTI 1696;

d the effective price (basic price plus extras) established by contract free-at-frontier duty-paid, *except* in the case of products originating in the third countries listed in annex 1 to NTI 1696;

e in the case of products originating in the countries listed in annex 1 to NTI 1696:

i the effective price free-at-destination per tonne;

ii the ECSC producers' list price selected for calculating the delivered price or the third country offer on which alignment has been authorised;

iii details of extras for size and/or quality per tonne; and where applicable

iv other extras (to be specified); and

v any rebates per tonne (reasons to be given);

f the date of the purchase contract for the products which it is proposed to import and the proposed date and place of importation;

g where applicable, whether the products in question, whatever their origins are, are intended for processing under contract and subsequent re-export to the third country of origin; and

h a declaration that no rebate not mentioned in the purchase contract or contracts will be granted.

F for iron and steel products in group ii:

a the date of contract for the purchase of the goods to be imported;

b unless the iron and steel products concerned originate in the state trading area or, in the case of those products indicated by an asterisk, are of Efta origin, a declaration in the following terms:

I/We declare that, to the best of my /our knowledge and belief, the price per tonne in £ Sterling of each of the products to which the attached application for an import licence relates, when sold in the country of origin for home consumption, in similar quantities and in the ordinary course of trade and at a similar level of trade to that of the present transaction, was, at the date of contract, as follows:

I/We am/are aware that the information provided in this application may be used by the Department of Trade in relation ot its administration of import policy, including anti-dumping, and that the information may be passed for similar purposes to the Commission of the European Communities.

Date ..... Signed .....

Status .....
(Owner, partner, company director or secretary)

Name of company .....

G for cutlery products,

a where an application relates to a proposed importation of boxed sets or canteens,.the numbers and description of each separate item making up such boxed sets or canteens;

b in the case of knives, forks and spoons, whether they are being imported in a finished or unfinished state; and

c in *all* cases (including boxed sets and canteens), whether the items to be imported are of stainless steel or of other metal.

H for television receivers and tubes

a against the headi..g 'Description of Goods', 'Monochrome TV receiver', 'Colour TV receiver' or 'Colour TV tube', as the case may be

b in *all* cases, the tube size (Bulb diagonal measurement) in inches *and* centimetres;

c separate applications must be made for receivers (sets) and tubes and, in both cases, for each size of tube, eg in the case of an order for 1000 receivers with 20 in. tubes, 500 receivers with 22 in. tubes and 1500 22 in. tubes, three separate applications should be made.

d in addition the following information must be provided separately with each application in respect of tubes (but not in the case of sets):

Manufacturer's name; configuration of electron gun (delta or in line); angle of deflection of electron beam (degrees); black matrix (state with or without); unit price (£ cif).

J quantities should be stated both in numbers of pieces (expressed in dozens) and in kg.

K separate applications must be made in respect of each 8-digit tariff/trade code number within the descriptions of products as categorised.

L the quantities in tonnes.

M for zip fasteners, in a separate declaration:

Name of importer:

Intended date or dates of importation

Overseas trade exhibitions

Prospects for housewares in Japan

From Ben Thorne, British embassy, Tokyo

From 5 to 7 July six-small-to-medium-sized Japanese agents and importers banded together to book the British Export Marketing Centre (BEMC) in Tokyo and put on an exhibition of the products of more than 50 British firms. These products covered a very broad range of household goods and gift items and the thing they had most in common was excellent, attractive, modern design and novelty for the Japanese purchaser.

British pottery and glass and other craft items were on show alongside kitchen aprons, chopping boards, decorated plastic and metalware not to mention beautifully fitted wicker picnic baskets, puzzles and table games, stationery, ironing boards, porcelain bathroom fittings and a whole variety of nick-nacks. Perhaps it would be fair to say that useful domestic items predominated but the whole impression was one of any British high street general goods chain store.

Since BEMC opened, five years ago, no group of Japanese agents has ever come together on a co-operative basis to put on any kind of exhibition. The nearest thing was the combination of three British trading houses operating in Japan who put on a show shortly after the centre opened.

In my view this is a quite important indicator of the very new import consciousness that is pervading the Japanese business world thanks to a great deal of overt encouragement by the Japanese government and major business organisations like the Keidanren, the powerful Japanese equivalent of our CBI.

Apart from this interesting evidence of changing times and attitudes in Japan, this exhibition was also an important pointer to the fascinating opportunities that now exist for selling quality, well-designed, but perfectly ordinary and everyday, products for use in the house. The Japanese housewife's kitchen is becoming more and more western and with 50 per cent of the population living in apartments where the almost universal trend is for the living/dining/kitchen space to be western-style, the housewife is more and more attracted to all kinds of western housewares and tablewares

This kind of trend or fashion must, of course, be taken early for British exporters to profit from it. Most goods in these categories rely for their appeal on the novelty and good design. Japanese manufacturers do not at present have the same design skills or production know how but if the market expands rapidly there will be plenty of local competition. Therefore the time to come and look at the market is now. Once a product is in and its brand image established it can often stay ahead of the local competition by continued product development, design changes and even, at the end of the day, local manufacture on a joint-venture basis.

A $2m taste of Britain

From Colum Sharkey, British consulate-general, Vancouver

A fanfare of trumpets and the cutting of a tape by Sir Derek Ezra of the British Overseas Trade Board signalled the opening of a seven-week British food promotion in Woodward's food departments throughout British Columbia and Alberta.

The promotion was launched on 26 June to coincide with the Captain Cook bicentennial celebrations in Vancouver and the commonwealth games in Edmonton. Additional purchases for the occasion by the Vancouver-based firm have already exceeded $2 million.

Displayed throughout 20 Woodward stores were over 600 different food items from 65 different British companies. Sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Food Export Council, this promotion is the latest move in a drive to expand British food exports to western Canada. In 1977, British food exports to Canada were valued at $54 million – an increase of 35 per cent over 1976.

After a year of careful planning, the promotion was launched with extensive press, radio and tv advertising. Alfie Howard, town crier of Lambeth, toured the stores, adding a vociferous note to the various displays. One million entry forms were available for customers to participate in draws for 12 free trips to Britain, courtesy of British Airways. Similar prizes were available for staff in the store with the best display and the one whose sales showed the greatest increase. Other prizes for the public included a British Leyland MGB sports car, food hampers and Wedgwood and Royal Albert china.

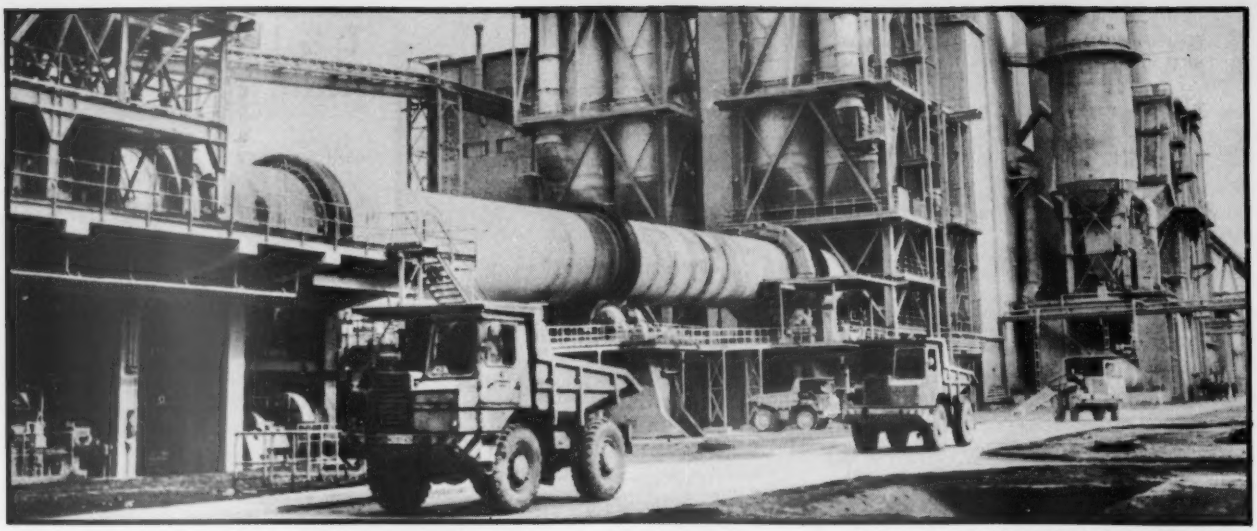
A British Food Export Council (BFEC) trade mission of 13 members, whose visit was geared to the promotion, was clearly delighted by this additional exposure for their products. 'The hallmark by which future such promotions will be judged', was one tribute from Paul Amos, deputy managing director of Weetabix and chairman of the BFEC. Other comments were 'most impressive', from Sir Derek Ezra, and 'first-rate co-operation from BOTB', from Cyril Keetch, vice-president food operations for Woodward Stores Ltd. Woodward's had suggested a British food promotion (and made it its major promotion for 1978) after a highly successful BFEC food sampling show in Vancouver in mid-1977.

All in all, a very worthwhile exercise, exemplifying the close co-operation between the British Overseas Trade Board, the consulate-general in Vancouver, the BFEC and this enthusiastic chain of Canadian Stores. Next stage will be an inward mission of Canadian food buyers to Britain, to promote new lines and consolidate the success already achieved.

Sir Derek Ezra of BOTB officially opens the 'A Taste of Britain' promotion in Vancouver, watched by (l to r) Colum Sharkey, consul (commercial) in Vancouver; Cyril Keetch, vice-president, food operations, Woodward Stores Ltd; and G. W. MacLaren, (executive vice-president, Woodward Stores Ltd).

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842 or 01-215 5879.



Cement plants of the VEB Schwermaschinenkombinat 'Ernst Thälmann' (SKET), Magdeburg.

MARKET REPORT: GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Where aggression is the better part of valour

It is a hard fact of commercial life that most of the world's trade continues to flourish between advanced industrial countries. On these grounds alone, many British firms may wish to consider the prospect of doing business with the German Democratic Republic, which is technologically and industrially the most advanced country in eastern Europe. This article, by Derek Tonkin, counsellor (commercial) at the British Embassy in East Berlin, looks at the export opportunities open to companies prepared to work for them.

The natural economic environments of Britain and the GDR share certain similarities. Since both countries need to import a significant part of their raw-material requirements, the success of their manufacturing industries and their export achievements are crucial to the economic well-being of both countries. The GDR, technologically and industrially the most advanced country in eastern Europe, is an expanding economy offering opportunities to UK exporters.

Tackling the market

It is customary to talk about 'tackling the market'. The market in the GDR is essentially a complex purchasing mechanism requiring close study and careful cultivation. External trading in the GDR is a state monopoly and responsibility for concluding contracts rests exclusively with the foreign trade enterprises (FTEs). There is, however, a complex network of relationships between the FTEs and the industrial ministries, GDR agency companies, end-users in factories and institutions, and technical advisory bureaux. The secret of success often lies in the correct interpretation of the reactions and developments that result from the interplay of these forces within this mechanism which, in its own way, can be as sensitive and responsive as any free-market mechanism.

Communications gap

Many of the very real problems encountered by British exporters doing business with the GDR are rooted in the communications gap between these two different political and economic systems. The most frequent complaint on the British side is the lack, or slowness, of response from GDR foreign trade organisations, while, on the GDR side, the most common criticism is that British businessmen are not aggressive enough. According to the GDR, because of our apparent lack of interest and determination, we should not be surprised if we lose business to others. This leads to a counter-complaint from British businessmen who say that they would dearly love to thump the table if only they could get an appointment to see the right person. The GDR response to this is that it sometimes seems to take weeks, if not months, for British firms to reply to seriously directed inquiries.

No doubt there are faults on both sides, but, clearly, there are hesitations and uncertainties, both in Britain and the GDR, about the serious nature of specific import and export opportunities. But this problem can be, and has been, overcome by British firms which have established themselves in the GDR.

A hard fight

In overcoming this difficulty, an important element is an understanding of the GDR ideology that nothing useful will be achieved without a hard fight. As the GDR 'Handbook of foreign trade contracts' puts it: 'The negotiation of [industrial plant] contracts with partners from capitalist industrial countries is a form of intensive and complicated class struggle . . . The struggle by the GDR partner to secure an arrangement of commercial-juridical conditions best serving the GDR economy is in this context a direct confrontation with a class enemy.'

Successful exporting country

The most successful western exporting country in the GDR is, not surprisingly, the Federal Republic of Germany, whose annual sales are 10 times as high as its nearest western rivals. The 6000 or so West German firms engaged in steady business with the GDR have an entrenched position, with all the natural advantages of a common language and culture. They also benefit from the technical and financial advantages of the 'swing' credit and from EEC acceptance that trade between the two German states should be regarded as internal EEC trade.

Accordingly, the GDR market is likely to be of principal interest to larger British firms and smaller specialist companies. Britain's share of the market is likely to increase primarily as a result of the efforts of determined and experienced companies which are prepared to devote the considerable effort, experience and patience needed to establish themselves in the GDR. Those who take a firm and conscious decision to do business with the GDR could do well. Those who make a half-hearted approach will not only be disappointed but some will wish that they had never started.

Worst of all for British exporters would be an upsurge of activity by uninitiated newcomers who somehow feel that they would rather like to give the GDR a try. Firms which are doubtful, both about their staying-power and flexibility in negotiation and about their willingness to provide longer-term credit and to undertake rather more high-level functions than might normally be necessary, would do better to try elsewhere.

For exporters who do decide to tackle the market, there is no substitute for personal contact with the relevant GDR foreign trade organisations. Indeed, the GDR authorities prefer direct contact with British exporters rather than to work through commercial agents outside the GDR. This does not mean that intermediaries based in, for example, Vienna or West Berlin, have no role to play, but there is now a greater tendency towards direct bilateral deals, especially in larger-scale projects.

GDR exports to OECD countries (known in

the GDR as the non-socialist economic area) have not recently been keeping pace with imports from the same sources, due as much to worsening terms of trade and higher prices for raw materials as to a lack of experience in marketing techniques, and an inability to meet export production requirements.

In order to finance imports, therefore, the GDR is insisting on a high measure of counter-trade. British business has shown considerable resilience and inventiveness in meeting this new challenge, which reflects London's position as a major centre of world trading. However, in a very real sense, the Golden Mile of the City is not only British, but international. British firms faced with counter-trade demands are advised to consider consulting the many specialist firms involved with counter-trading – the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the East European Trade Council and the Department of Trade will be glad to point you in the right direction.

Tips for would-be exporters

Finally, a few tips for the British exporter which should help to smooth your path in the GDR:

☐ Do call in at the British Embassy at Under den Linden, where the commercial section are always glad to see you (tel. 220 2431, telex 113171).

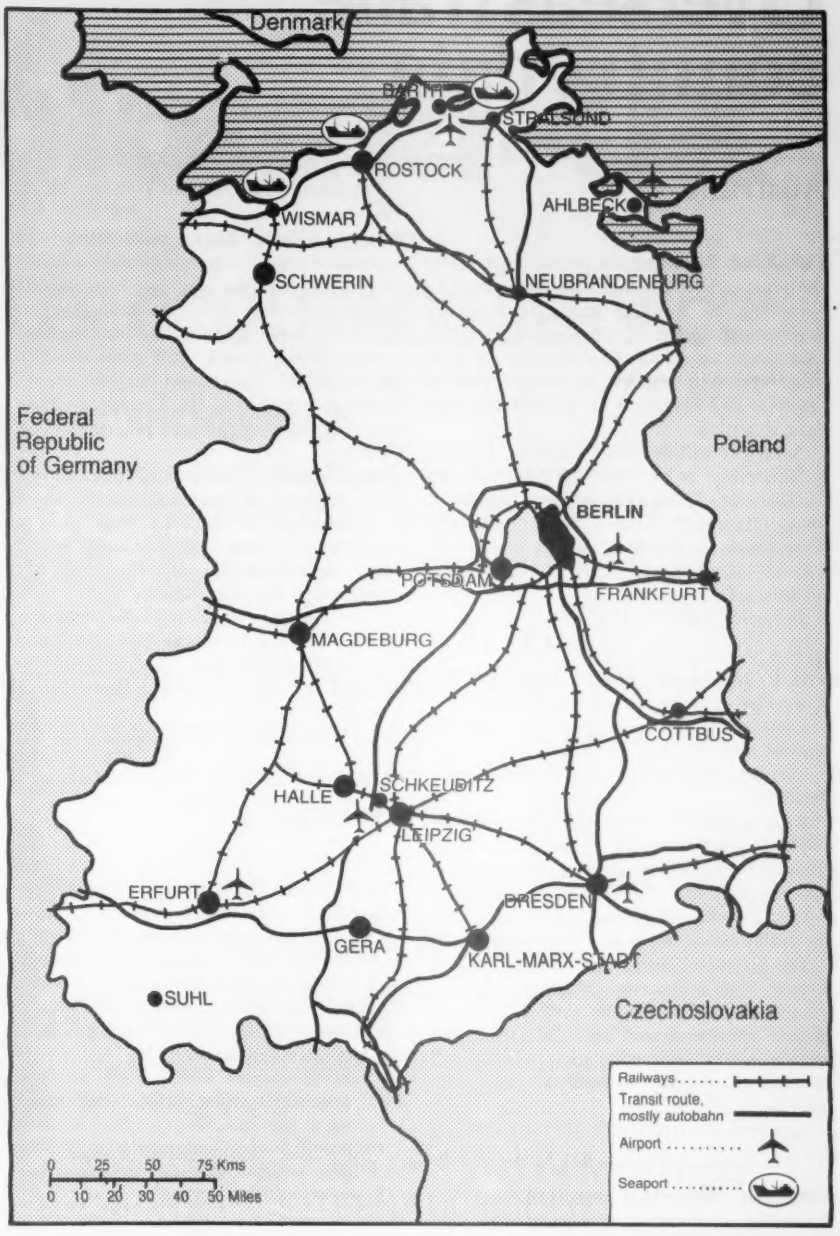
☐ Although the country is known as East Germany, the official title is the German Democratic Republic and this is the only description they like to hear. Likewise, East Berlin is seldom used or heard there – Berlin is quite sufficient.

☐ Plan your sales campaign over a longer term. It may take up to six months, or even longer, to get a definitive response; this is the time needed by the FTEs to consult industry, evaluate your product and assess import priority.

☐ A visit to the GDR is essential sooner or later; you can fly to Tegel in West Berlin and pick up a day visa without prior notification at Checkpoint Charlie. If you want to stay overnight, the Hotel Metropol (only) can arrange a longer-stay visa for you on the spot.

For those who stay the course, the rewards can be well worth the time and effort invested.

German Democratic Republic



Since 1970, freighters of the 'Ocean' type built in the VEB Warnowwerft, Warnemünde have been exported by Schiffscommerz, the nationally owned foreign trade enterprise of the VVB Schiffbau.

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Furniture. Following the public inquiry into the question as to whether assistance should be given to the production of furniture in Australia the Industries Assistance Commission (IAC) has released a draft of its report to give interested parties an opportunity to examine and comment on it before its final form is settled.

A further public hearing will be held on 5 September in the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission 16th Floor, 59 Goulbourn St, Sydney NSW to consider submissions on the draft; a copy of any submission should be forwarded to the IAC in advance of the hearing.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1736/76.

Thick plywood: tariff quotas. The Australian government has announced that it is extending the existing temporary assistance in respect of thick plywood (exceeding 5.5mm but under 23mm in thickness) tariff heading 44.15.11.

A quota of 10 000 m^3 will apply to imports of thick plywood between 1 July 1978 and 30 June 1979. Imports in excess of the quota level will continue to be subject to an additional duty of 35 cents per m^2 for each 1mm or part thereof in excess of 5.5 mm in thickness.

The plywood entitled to New Zealand preference, high moisture-resistant plywood entitled to Papua New Guinea preference and to by-law admission and plywood faced with western red cedar or californian redwood will continue to be excluded from the quota control.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468 469 401. Ref: CRE1740/76.

Domestic electrical appliances. The Australian government has announced that the operative date for the rates of duty for domestic electrical appliances announced in *Trade and Industry* 21 July, is 7 July 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 488 469 401. Ref: CRE 4/75.

Rotary tillers, hoes, cultivators. The Australian government has received a request for temporary protection from local industry against the import of pedestrian operated and power-take off rotary tillers, hoes and cultivators falling within tariff items 84.24.101 and 84.24.900. The request has been referred by the government to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 45 days.

Any temporary protection that may be given to goods of local manufacture on the recommendation of the TAA would be in the nature of a holding action pending government consideration of the long-term protection of the local industry.

Views on this application for temporary assistance should be sent to reach the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra, PO Box 80, ACT 2600 not later than 16 August.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1254/78.

Finland

Frozen foods. The Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry has issued new legislation on deep-frozen and frozen foods. Decree 797 of 11 November 1977 contains regulations on the preparation, storage, transport and offering for sale of such foods, and decision 798 of the same date contains further requirements on the application of decree 797.

These regulations came into force on 1 April 1978, and decree 298 of 24 May 1968 and its subsequent amendments have been revoked.

Copies of an unofficial translation of decree 797 and decision 798 are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Italy

Chemical additives: (milk). The *Gazzetta Ufficiale* 157, 8 June, published a ministerial decree, 18 May, setting out modifications to the chemical additives permitted in the preparation and conservation of foodstuffs, listed in the ministerial decree of 31 March 1965.

The decree implements EEC directive of 18 December 1975 concerning certain concentrated and dehydrated milks intended for human consumption.

Copies of the decree, in Italian, are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Kenya

Insurance. Following the notice in *Trade and Industry*, 7 July page 39 and 28 July page 222 the Kenyan authorities have now ruled that marine insurance must be placed locally for all contacts where import licences are issued on or after 1 July 1978.

This does not apply to contracts where the licences were issued before this date.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5226.

Libya

Agricultural machinery. Regulations giving specifications for agricultural machinery and heavy tractors for agricultural use have been announced.

A list of the requirements is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Malta

Import licensing. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 18 July, carried legal notice 81 of 1978 which had the immediate effect of adding the following toiletries to the list of items requiring an import licence:

after sun moisturising creams, hair shampoos, sun screening oils and creams.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Morocco

Import deposits. It has now been announced that a deposit of 25 per cent of the value will be required for all imports. The deposit will be reimbursed after six months.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Puerto Rico

Excise tax. The Department of the Treasury has announced an increase in the excise tax on the following: 1. beer increased from US $105 to US $160 per gallon and 2. cigarettes per pack of 20 increased from 41 cents to 53 cents.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456.

Saudi Arabia

Work permits. The Saudi Ministry for the Interior announced recently that as from 6 July it would take special steps to enforce the regulations concerning work permits.

Illegal immigrants and companies employing them would be liable to fines and deportation or imprisonment. A two-month grace period expired on 5 July during which period companies wishing to employ foreigners without valid work permits could apply for valid work permits from temporary passport offices within the kingdom.

Work permits are now available only from Saudi embassies in the country of origin of the workers concerned.

British companies who are undertaking work in Saudi Arabia are advised to ensure that all staff employed by them have valid work permits.

In certain cases, where no manual work is involved, it might be acceptable for short term assignments to be carried out on the bases of a business visit visa alone. On this and any other point of doubt British companies are advised to consult their local agent or sponsor.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5396.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

UK-Bologna-UK

DIRECT TRAILER GROUPAGE SERVICE

8

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Tunisia

Import duties. The *Tunisian Journal*, 27 June, has announced a reduction of 6 per cent on the duty on BN 48.01 C – kraft paper and paperboard from 1 January to 31 December.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Switzerland

Vinyl chloride monomer. An extract from *Recueil des lois federales*, 29, 18 July, gives the following information:

1 The maximum residual concentration of vinyl chloride monomer in foodstuffs is fixed at 0.01 mg/kg.
2 The analytical method for determining the residual concentration of this chemical is published in *Travaux de chimie alimentaire et d'hygiene*, volume 66 (1975), pages 507 to 511.
3 This ordinance will come into force on the 1 October 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Literature to view

For the export executive who wishes to present illustrations, photographs, literature, specifications and reference material in a professional manner, Rexel's Slimview display books may provide the answer. The 50-pocket Slimview gives 100 pages of display in one compact volume and a Slimview is half the thickness of an equivalent capacity ring binder. Several separate presentations can easily be contained, cutting down bulk and weight, particularly important when overseas travel is involved. Sizes are either A4 or foolscap. Others in the Slimview range are the 12, 18 and 24 pocket sizes, suitable when less material needs to be carried.

Further information: circle 116

Overseas trade export services

New ro-ro vessel for Foss ME services

A new 3000 linear m/500 trailer equivalent unit ro-ro vessel is shortly being delivered direct from builder's yard for the scheduled UK/Europe-Middle East ro-ro services operated by Foss Shipping.

Operating as the *Foss Ems*, she will become the largest vessel in the company's fleet on entering service in mid-August. Her deployment marks a move by Foss towards the operation of larger vessels in its established services.

The 19-knot *Foss Ems* will load in Hamburg, Rotterdam, Felixstowe and Antwerp for her maiden voyage to Red Sea and Gulf ports, starting in Hamburg on 11 August.

Foss now offers weekly sailings to Jeddah, fortnightly sailings to the Gulf ports of Dubai and Dammam, and monthly sailings to Tripoli, Port Sudan and Hodeidah. A monthly service to Bandar Shahpour, Iran, was recently introduced and operates as an extension of the Gulf service.

Further information: circle 113

Lloyds expands export services

Following the recent re-organisation of its Sharston, Manchester production and warehousing unit, which has made available an additional 40 000 sq ft of space, Lloyds Packing Warehouses has expanded the special services it offers to exporters.

The company is offering a fully comprehensive range of services which cover every aspect of export packing with the basic aim of Lloyds acting as a customer's export department.

Whatever the size of the product, Lloyds says it will inspect, check against orders, store, collate, call-off as per customer's instructions and ship by any method world wide.

On the documentation side the company has its own freight-forwarding department which will provide the necessary export, freight and shipping documentation and arrange customs clearance.

The packing techniques offered by the company ensure that each product is packed to meet both the physical and climatic conditions during shipment and storage.

Further information: circle 114

Autotelex to Lagos

Nigeria's capital, Lagos, becomes the latest addition to Britain's expanding automatic international telex links.

Britain's 72 000 telex users can now make calls direct to five-digit numbers starting with 2 in the Lagos area without the help of an international telex operator. All other numbers in Nigeria still require operator assistance.

The new autotelex service to Lagos brings to 115 the number of countries that UK telex users can contact direct.

About 2500 of the 6000 telex calls made each month to Nigeria are to Lagos numbers. Major users include the oil, cocoa and cotton industries.

Further information: circle 115

New ro-ro vessel sails for ME

OT Express Line's new, large-capacity ro-ro ship *Bandar Abbas Express* sailed from Immingham (south Humberside) on 25 July for its maiden voyage to the Middle East and Karachi.

With 2520 lane-metres of cargo space (840 teu), the new vessel provides OT Express Line with an overall increase in cargo-capacity of more than 20 per cent.

Bandar Abbas Express is designed to carry containers, general cargo and wheeled cargo. It features three-deck cargo accommodation, large, double stern openings, and semi-slewing ramps to allow loading/unloading while berthed side-on or end-on to the quay.

An important design-change has been incorporated as far as the upper deck is concerned, with the bridge-superstructure now being positioned forward. Together with the shelter-sides now fitted, this provides substantially improved weather protection for cargo carried on the upper deck.

Further information: circle 117

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Export services: now every week

Export services will now appear every week in the pages of *Trade and Industry*.

If your company has recently introduced a new service for exporters – in, for example, the packing, forwarding, shipping, airfreighting, banking or translation fields – we would be glad to have details, plus a good black and white photograph where appropriate.

Items for inclusion in this feature should be addressed to the Overseas Editor, Trade and Industry, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Advertisers who wish to be associated with this feature should contact Dudley Masters on 01-242-9478.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1977	1970	£ million	£ million			18,845 p	10,762	£ million 1,938	1,946	£ million		
1971	101.7	32 677	9 625	1 988	1 922	112	−148	52	18	1 074	279	795
1972	104.0	34 519	9 636	1 721	2 035	35	−145	48	15	126	−701	827
1973	110.8	36 132	10 233	1 730	2 377	1 365	597	102	379	−883	−2 354	1 471
1974	109.1	35 682	10 001	1 964	2 300	561	634	81	−109	−3 515	−5 195	1 680
1975	107.3	35 269	9 640	1 695	1 921	−842	−429	−111	−65	−1 617	−3 205	1 588
1976	109.8	35 406	9 444	1 633	1 900	97	5	23	9	−859	−3 510	2 651
1977	110.9	35 116	9 087	1 764	2 081	444	234	108	17	165	−1 612	1 777
1976 2nd qtr.	109.3	8 793	2 346	400	468	−12	−66	−20	−45	−281	−909	628
3rd qtr.	109.6	8 879	2 377	414	488	5	−2	14	16	−304	−1 097	793
4th qtr.	111.3	8 928	2 343	422	496	105	73	3	5	−279	−961	682
1977 1st qtr.	110.5	8 758	2 259	419	502	234	125	51	102	−493	−947	454
2nd qtr.	110.9	8 639	2 292	433	508	229	164	39	−5	−365	−764	399
3rd qtr.	111.1	8 829	2 265	456	530	−30	−31	5	−44	537	54	483
4th qtr.	111.2	8 890	2 271	457	541	11	−25	13	−36	486	45	441
1978 1st qtr.	112.1	9 084	2 245 p	446	548	249	125	53	61	−305	−574	269
2nd qtr.		9 115 pe								224	−136	360
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.6	+2.7	−0.9	+1.6	+4.9							
on a year earlier	+0.7	+4.6	−1.9	+7.4	+9.1							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payment basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)				at 1975 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 16,296	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands	1975 19,462	1975 22,667
1971	100.1	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	118.7	775.8	3.4	130.9	84.6	83.3
1972	102.3	102.0	105.3	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.0	854.9	3.7	147.3	84.5	92.4
1973	110.0	110.5	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.1	611.0	2.6	307.0	96.8	105.6
1974	106.3	108.9	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.1	599.7†	2.6†	302.7†	103.9	107.9
1975	100.6	102.2	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	226.6	929.0	3.9	150.0†	100.0	100.0
1976	101.3	103.2	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	261.9	1 269.8†	5.4†	120.4†	109.9	e105.5
1977	102.6	103.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	340.1	261.7	288.5	1 378.1	5.8	155.6†	118.9	107.0
1977 1st qtr.	103.2	105.3	103.3	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.0	1 329.5	5.6	..	115.7	109.1
2nd qtr.	101.9	103.0	102.5	103	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.3	1 340.6	5.6	157.7	118.0	109.8
3rd qtr.	102.8	103.8	104.3	112	184.7	16.5	340.5	267.7	288.3	1 414.6	5.9	151.9	124.1	106.4
4th qtr.	102.3	103.3	104.4	110	187.4	13.1	330.6	272.1	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1	117.9	102.6
1978 1st qtr.	103.3	104.2	106.3	129	190.6	9.5	326.7	279.0	310.8	1 409.4	5.9	187.7	120.3	114.3
2nd qtr.			108.1 p		195.8	7.7	340.6 p	284.5 p		1 372.7	5.7	210.3	122.8 p	110.2 p
1977 Aug.	102.8	103.5	104.7	116	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	287.7	1 410.3	5.9	153.4	123.4	101.3
Sept.	102.7	103.6	103.5	107	185.7	15.6	338.1	269.2	291.0	1 434.9	6.0	147.2	125.9	107.5
Oct.	102.0	103.1	102.7	116	186.5	14.1	333.8	271.0	295.8	1 431.5	6.0	156.0	119.4	101.3
Nov.	102.0	102.7	103.1	108	187.4	13.0	329.9	272.0	300.5	1 429.6	6.0	159.4	115.3	98.4
Dec.	102.9	104.1	106.9	104	188.4	12.1	328.0	273.3	304.8	1 422.3	6.0	165.0	118.9	108.1
1978 Jan.	102.9	103.6	104.9	125	189.5	9.9	324.9	277.1	306.3	1 419.2	5.9	180.3	112.2	114.6
Feb.	103.6	104.1	106.8	120	190.6	9.5	324.2	279.2	311.2	1 409.0	5.9	187.0	127.4	111.3
Mar.	103.4	104.8	107.0	142	191.8	9.1	331.0	280.6	314.8	1 400.0	5.9	195.8	121.4	116.9
Apr.	105.9	106.6	106.7	132	194.6	7.9	337.4	282.7	325.7	1 387.1	5.8	203.7	126.1	104.3
May	103.9 p	104.5 p	108.4	124	195.7	7.7	341.5 p	284.6 p	326.8 p	1 366.4	5.7	209.9	120.1	114.3
June			109.0 p	133	197.2	7.4	342.9 p	286.2 p		1 364.7	5.7	217.4	122.1 p	112.0 p
July										1 371.3 p	5.7	211.0		
% change latest 3 months														
on prev. 3 months	+1.3	+1.3	+1.7	+0.5	+2.7		+4.3	+2.0	+4.9	−2.2		+8.8	+2	−3½
on a year earlier	+1.5	+0.7	+5.5	+25.9	+7.7		−2.0	+9.8	+13.5	+0.4		+35.0	+4	+½

p Provisional pe Preliminary e Estimate .. Not available † Average of available months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Economic indicators of the industrial countries

The tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – e. The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data sources. The group of industrial countries is taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), ie western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

The five tables in this article are published monthly. A full set of tables with commentary appears quarterly (see 2 June 1978).

Inquiries: 01-215 3442.

Table 1 **Industrial production** (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy r	Nether-lands	United Kingdom r	EEC [1]	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	7.1	12.5	0.2	4.5	1.5	6.3	33.5	3.5	43.2	11.6	
1971	103	98.7	106	101.8	104	99.9	106	99.8	102	105.6	102.0	102.7	103
1972	109	102.8	112	105.7	109	104.4	111	102.1	107	113.0	111.0	110.1	110
1973	116	115.1	120	112.9	120	114.5	119	110.5	115	123.5	120.4	127.4	120
1974	120	119.1	123	111.3	122	119.0	125	108.5	115	127.4	119.9	122.5	120
1975	109	93.0	114	105.0	114	108.5	119	103.1	108	121.3	109.3	109.6	110
1976	118	98.9	124	112.7	125	121.1	126	104.3	115	127.4	120.4	121.7	120
1977	117	99.4	126	116.1	135	120.9	127	105.9	118	131.7	127.2	126.7	124
1975 1st quarter	111	101.4	113	104	114	110.2	120	107.8	108	121.3	105.0	107.2	108
2nd	107	92.3	113	104	113	107.0	117	102.3	106	120.7	106.0	108.8	108
3rd	106	83.2	112	104	114	105.9	115	101.1	106	120.8	111.8	111.0	111
4th	110	94.2	117	108	116	110.8	123	102.3	110	122.3	114.4	111.5	114
1976 1st quarter	114	97.5	123	111	121	116.6	124	102.6	113	125.7	118.1	116.9	117
2nd	119	103.7	123	113	123	120.7	126	104.5	115	128.0	120.0	121.0	119
3rd	118	96.6	125	114	126	122.7	127	104.2	116	127.5	121.4	123.5	120
4th	119	97.7	125	115	128	127.9	129	105.9	118	128.4	122.0	124.9	122
1977 1st quarter	120	100.1	129	117	130	131.3	127	107.1	120	131.1	123.9	126.4	124
2nd	118	103.4	125	116	135	122.1	128	105.4	117	131.5	127.1	126.3	124
3rd	114	94.4	125	116	134	121.2	125	106.0	117	131.5	128.4	126.2	125
4th	117	98.8	124	117	140	118.6	127	105.2	117	132.6	129.2	127.9	125
1978 1st quarter	119	106.4	127	117	145	124.1	126	106.8	119	133.1	129.5	131.6	126
1976 July	114	94.1	124	111		122.7	124	104.2	115	126.7	121.2	123.3	120
August	121	86.5	124	113		118.9	127	103.5	115	128.2	121.8	123.7	120
September	120	109.1	129	115		126.4	131	104 8	118	127.5	121.3	123.6	121
October	122	101.6	123	115		122.8	128	105.3	117	127.2	121.0	123.3	121
November	119	96.5	129	115		128.6	127	106.0	119	128.6	122.0	125.3	122
December	121	95.2	125	116		132.3	131	106.2	119	129.4	123.4	126.1	123
1977 January	121	101.6	129	117		131.3 e	129	107.1	120	131.5	122.7	126.9 e	123
February	119	96.7	127	116		131.2 e	126	107.0	119	130.8	123.6	125.2 e	123
March	121	102.0	129	118		131.5 e	127	107.0	121	131.1	125.5	127.0 e	125
April	118	100.0	125	116		123.1	132	105.8	118	130.7	126.3	126.3	124
May	119	105.6	123	115		125.8	127	107.0	117	131.5	127.1	125.9	124
June	118	104.5	128	116		117.4	126	103.5	117	132.5	127.8	126.7	124
July	111	97.9	124	115		119.5	124	106.2	116	131.0	128.7	124.7	124
August	119	84.7	124	116		120.4	124	106.0	117	132.0	128.1	127.1	124
September	114	100.7	126	117		123.6	126	105.9	118	131.5	128.5	126.9	125
October	112	94.4	122	116		118.3	126	104.9	116	131.8	128.8	126.1	124
November	117	103.2	127	117		120.8	125	104.8	118	132.7	129.2	128.3	126
December	121	98.7	122	119		116.7	130	105.8	117	133.2	129.6	129.3	126
1978 January	121	109.0	126	120		121.9	127	106.3	119	131.6	128.8	130.6	126
February	120	108.1	125	116		125.8	126	107.1	118	133.9	129.1	130.7	126
March	117	102.2	129	115		124.6	126	107.0	118	133.7	130.7	133.4	127
April	122	106.0	131	117		121.6	129	109.6	120 e	133.4	132.6	133.5	129 e
May			127 e	115 e		123.2 e	124 e	107.2			133.3	134.0 e	
% change latest three months													
On previous three months	–	1.7	3.8	−2.3	3.6	1.4	−1.0	1.4	0.6	0.9	2.3	2.6	1.1
On a year earlier	0.3	5.9	2.7	−0.6	11.5	−2.9	−1.8	1.3	−0.6	2.1	4.7	5.7	2.7

[1] Excluding Denmark. r Revised. e Estimate.
Source: United Kingdom, Department of Trade; all others 'OECD Main Economic indicators'.

Regional Statistics No. 13 1977

Regional Statistics No. 13 1977 is an essential reference book for professionals with an interest in regional industry, economics, markets or social characteristics. Compiled by the Central Statistical Office, it provides in one volume a detailed quantitative picture of regional variations within the United Kingdom across a broad range of topics; the subject headings are: Regional profiles (which are a selection of key statistics for each separate region and for counties within it), Social characteristics, Social services, Health, Housing, Education, Employment, Energy, Production, distribution and investment, Agriculture, Transport, Personal incomes, Household expenditure and Regional economic accounts.

Notes are given in an appendix explaining the sources and definitions of the figures presented, and providing references to further material on each subject covered.

Price £6.50 (by post £7.04)

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Table 3 **Unemployment** seasonally adjusted

Numbers thousands

	Belgium [8]	Denmark [1 7]	France [1 10]	F.R. of Germany [1 9]	Ireland [3]	Italy [4 6 9]	Nether-lands [1 9]	United Kingdom [1 8]	Canada [4]	United States [4]	Japan [4]
1971	71	*30*	*337*	185	42	*613*	62	776	552	4 993	639
1972	87	*30*	*380*	246	48	*696*	108	885	562	4 840	730
1973	92	*21*	*394*	274	44	*669*	110	611	520	4 305	670
1974	105	*50*	*498*	583	48	*560*	135	600 [6]	521	5 076	740
1975	177	*124*	*840*	1 074	75	*654*	195	929	697	7 830	1 000
1976	229	*126*	*933*	1 060	84	*732*	211	1 270	736	7 288	1 080
1977	264	164	*1 073*	1 030	82	1 545	204	1 378	862	6 856	1 100
1975 3rd quarter	189	*123*	*889*	1 124	78	*648*	203	995	712	7 898	1 025
4th	210	*123*	*924*	1 141	81	*699*	210	1 128	726	7 729	1 114
1976 1st quarter	213	*118*	*929*	1 136	82	*681*	211	1 220	703	7 224	1 072
2nd	227	*115*	*928*	1 040	84	*693*	209	1 261	728	7 111	1 102
3rd	238	*120*	*925*	1 031	85	*776*	217	1 300	748	7 363	1 101
4th	238	*126*	*942*	1 014	84	777	206	1 313	770	7 443	1 038
1977 1st quarter	246	147	*997*	1 018	82	1 459	197	1 330	826	7 161	1 032
2nd	261	156	*1 069*	1 025	83	1 432	200	1 341	852	6 889	1 110
3rd	276	163	*1 149*	1 054	83	1 692	213	1 415	878	6 736	1 150
4th	276	171	1 073	1 023	80	1 598	205	1 428	900	6 554	1 126
1978 1st quarter	275	185	1 055	1 014	77 e	1 520	197	1 409	910	6 155	1 146
2nd				983 e		1 455		1 373	943	5 962	
1977 January	242	142	*974*	(1 053)	82		(196)	1 330	786	7 066	1 005
February	245	147	*999*	(1 020)	82		(193)	1 330	835	7 273	1 032
March	250	153	*1 017*	997	83		196	1 329	858	7 145	1 057
April	254	153	*1 037*	1 016	82		194	1 334	868	6 869	1 030
May	262	157	*1 066*	1 019	83		200	1 324	840	6 894	1 127
June	267	159	*1 105*	1 041	83		205	1 364	848	6 904	1 172
July	272	161	*1 140*	1 059	83		208	1 399	866	6 719	1 189
August	282	163	*1 174*	1 059	84		217	1 410	881	6 821	1 143
September	275	165	*1 132*	1 043	82		213	1 435	887	6 668	1 118
October	272	167	1 097	1 034	81		209	1 432	887	6 688	1 055
November	283	171	1 068	1 027	81		206	1 430	903	6 663	1 150
December	272	176	1 054	1 009	79		200	1 422	911	6 310	1 172
1978 January	274	181	1 028	1 002	78		199	1 419	891	6 226	1 112
February	274	184	1 050	1 028	77		196	1 409	901	6 090	1 150
March	278	191	1 086	1 012	77 e		197	1 400	938	6 148	1 175
April	282	185	1 106	978			196	1 387	935	5 983	1 198
May	289	182	1 132	987			201	1 366	949	6 149	
June				987 e				1 365	944	5 754	
July								1 371			
Rate % latest month	10.3	8.5	6.0	4.4 e	11.0 e	6.8	5.0 e	5.7	8.6	5.7	2.2
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	3.5	3.1	6.1	−3.0	−3.7	−4.3	−0.2	−2.2	3.6	−3.1	2.6
On a year earlier	10.8	20.5	n.a.	−4.0	−6.1	1.6	0.7	0.4	10.6	−13.5	13.0

Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison. [1] Numbers registered at employment offices. Rates are calculated as percentages of total employees. [2] Excluding school leavers. [3] Insured unemployed. Rates are calculated as percentages of total insured population. [4] Labour force sample survey. Rates are calculated as percentages of total labour force. The quarterly data for Italy relate to January, April, July and October. [5] Estimated in the absence of one month's figures. [6] From 1977, new method of calculating unemployment which is not consistent with the previous figures. [7] From 1977, including unemployed insured for loss of part time jobs. [8] Not seasonally adjusted. [9] The seasonally adjusted figures have been revised; where revisions have not been published by OECD, the previous figures are shown in brackets. [10] Data from October 1977 are affected by administrative changes which tend to reduce the figures. e Estimated. r Revised. n.a. Not available. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators' and 'Department of Employment Gazette'.

Table 5 **Consumer prices** All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	104.3	104.7	105.8	105.3	105.3	108.9	104.8	107.5	109.4	106.2	102.9	104.3	106.1	105.3
1972	110.0	110.1	112.8	111.7	111.1	118.4	110.8	115.9	117.2	112.7	107.8	107.7	110.9	110.2
1973	117.7	116.8	123.3	119.9	118.8	131.8	122.8	125.2	128.0	122.1	116.0	114.4	123.9	119.1
1974	132.6	128.0	142.1	136.3	127.1	154.2	146.3	137.3	148.4	138.0	128.6	127.0	154.2	134.3
1975	149.5	141.7	155.8	152.2	134.7	186.4	171.1	151.3	184.4	157.2	142.5	138.6	172.4	149.5
1976	163.2	155.6	169.8	166.8	140.8	219.9	199.8	164.6	214.9	175.0	153.2	146.6	188.4	162.5
1977	174.8	166.0	188.7	183.2	146.3	249.9	236.6	175.6	249.0	195.0	165.4	156.1	203.6	177.5
1976 1st quarter	158.7	151.1	162.0	161.1	139.0	206.3	185.0	159.0	204.4	167.9	149.8	143.7	181.4	157.5
2nd	161.9	154.5	168.5	164.8	141.1	219.1	196.7	164.3	211.9	173.4	152.1	145.5	187.7	161.1
3rd	164.9	157.0	171.1	168.6	141.2	222.4	202.2	165.4	216.8	176.4	154.3	147.8	189.8	163.8
4th	167.6	159.7	177.7	172.9	141.9	231.8	215.1	169.6	226.8	182.3	156.6	149.4	194.5	167.5
1977 1st quarter	170.9	163.4	179.6	175.6	144.6	240.7	225.2	170.8	238.2	188.0	159.9	152.1	198.8	171.6
2nd	173.7	165.9	185.4	181.0	146.5	249.7	233.8	175.8	248.8	194.0	163.7	155.3	204.2	176.4
3rd	176.3	167.0	190.0	185.3	146.9	252.4	239.7	176.9	252.7	197.3	167.3	157.6	204.8	179.5
4th	178.3	167.7	199.8	188.8	147.2	256.8	247.7	178.8	256.4	200.5	170.9	159.3	206.5	182.5
1978 1st quarter	180.6	168.9	202.6	191.8	149.1	260.5	254.2	179.0	260.8	203.8	174.0	162.0	207.4	185.6
2nd	181.4 e	170.7 e			150.5 e	265.1	262.3 e	182.1 e	267.9					
1977 January	170.1	162.4	178.7	174.3	143.8		221.4	169.5	235.9	186.2	158.4	150.7	197.7	170.1
February	171.4	163.5	178.8	175.5	144.7	240.7	225.7	170.8	238.2	188.1	159.9	152.3	198.8	171.7
March	171.3	164.2	181.4	177.1	145.2		228.5	172.2	240.5	189.6	161.5	153.2	200.0	173.1
April	172.2	165.2	183.3	179.4	145.9		231.3	175.1	246.7	192.4	162.4	154.4	203.3	175.2
May	173.9	165.8	186.0	181.1	146.5	249.7	234.2	176.0	248.6	194.0	163.8	155.3	205.2	176.5
June	175.0	166.7	186.9	182.5	147.2		235.8	176.4	251.2	195.4	164.9	156.3	204.1	177.5
July	175.5	167.4	188.2	184.1	147.0		237.2	176.1	251.4	196.0	166.5	157.0	203.6	178.4
August	176.1	167.0	189.9	185.1	146.9	252.4	239.4	176.7	252.7	197.0	167.2	157.6	203.6	179.3
September	177.3	166.6	191.9	186.7	146.7		242.5	177.8	254.0	198.2	168.1	158.2	207.2	180.7
October	177.7	167.3	198.6	188.2	146.9		245.7	178.6	255.1	199.6	169.8	158.6	208.3	181.8
November	178.3	168.1	200.3	188.9	147.1	256.8	248.1	179.0	256.4	200.5	170.9	159.4	205.8	182.5
December	179.0	167.8	200.6	189.4	147.5		249.3	178.9	257.7	201.2	172.0	160.0	205.3	183.1
1978 January	179.9	168.5	201.8	190.3	148.4		251.4	178.0	259.2	202.4	172.6	160.9	206.2	184.2
February	180.7	168.9	202.6	191.7	149.2	260.5	254.0	178.8	260.7	203.8	173.8	162.0	207.1	185.5
March	181.1	169.4	203.5	193.4	149.7		257.2	180.2	262.4	205.2	175.7	163.1	208.9	187.0
April	181.3	170.4	204.3	195.5	150.1		259.7	181.4	266.2	206.8	176.1	164.6	211.2	188.7
May	181.5	170.6	206.1	197.4	150.5	265.1	262.6 e	182.5	267.7	207.4	178.6	166.0 e	212.4	190.2 e
June	181.5 e	171.2 e			150.9 e		264.6 e	182.4 e	269.8					
Percentage change														
Latest month on same month a year earlier	3.7	2.7	10.8	9.0	2.5	6.2	12.2	3.4	7.4	6.9	9.0	6.9	3.5	7.8
Latest three months on previous three months	0.5	1.1	1.5	2.6	0.9	1.8	3.2	1.7	2.7	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.4
Latest three months on a year earlier	4.5	2.9	11.5	9.1	2.7	6.2	12.2	3.6	7.7	7.5	8.8	6.7	3.9	7.8

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'. e Estimated.

Table 8 Exports (fob) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada [3]	United States [2]	Japan [2 3]	OECD [3]
1970	11 592	3 288	17 940	34 188	1 032	13 188	11 772	19 382	112 356	16 134	43 224	19 320	220 045
1971	12 081	3 609	20 592	39 009	1 308	15 177	13 953	22 365	128 084	17 676	44 211	23 994	246 037
1972	15 995	4 330	25 739	46 208	1 610	18 535	15 392	24 415	153 152	20 184	49 676	28 591	290 784
1973	22 416	6 120	35 952	67 440	2 124	22 236	23 952	30 632	210 684	25 200	71 316	36 936	398 880
1974	28 260	7 716	45 900	89 160	2 628	30 288	32 436	38 827	275 100	32 784	98 508	55 536	532 932
1975	28 812	8 712	52 212	90 024	3 216	34 824	34 440	44 270	295 992	32 304	107 652	55 752	567 804
1976	32 844	9 108	55 812	102 036	3 312	36 924	38 748	46 542	325 044	38 628	114 996	67 224	630 492
1977	37 488	10 068	63 516	117 936	4 392	45 036	43 680	57 526	379 620	41 556	120 168	80 496	715 104
1976 1st quarter	7 404	2 120	13 272	23 280	740	8 475	8 907	11 474	75 618	9 099	27 219	15 564	147 309
2nd	7 746	2 225	13 851	24 609	818	8 862	8 883	11 452	78 165	9 543	28 660	16 467	153 129
3rd	8 217	2 340	14 007	26 148	837	9 414	9 909	11 523	82 507	9 822	29 384	17 037	160 668
4th	9 144	2 445	14 586	27 456	886	9 972	11 001	12 093	87 727	9 576	29 450	17 787	166 884
1977 1st quarter	9 069	2 532	15 108	27 897	962	10 467	10 623	12 977	89 492	10 359	29 786	19 479	171 558
2nd	9 123	2 357	15 252	28 788	1 014	11 481	10 536	14 292	92 571	10 179	30 574	19 710	175 752
3rd	9 261	2 526	16 242	29 541	1 200	10 971	11 220	14 950	96 152	10 374	30 609	20 181	180 465
4th	9 849	2 709	17 465	32 048	1 226	12 064	11 635	15 307	102 812	10 477	29 485	21 237	188 887
1978 1st quarter [5]	10 258	2 676	17 325	32 394	1 364	11 520	11 968	17 062		10 756		23 898	
2nd								16 686					
1976 October	3 103	789	4 806	8 998	302	3 302	3 442	3 916	28 691	3 197	9 782	5 930	(54 511)
November	2 910	817	4 816	8 990	289	3 440	3 699	3 940	29 001	3 122	9 235	5 804	(54 497)
December	3 131	839	4 965	9 468	294	3 230	3 861	4 238	30 034	3 257	10 433	6 053	(57 372)
1977 January	3 005	836	5 085	9 202	309	3 450	3 577	4 347	29 770	3 300	9 807	6 566	(56 679)
February	2 934	824	4 992	9 147	322	3 409	3 620	4 293	29 504	3 349	9 904	6 428	(56 459)
March	3 130	872	5 031	9 548	331	3 608	3 427	4 336	30 218	3 710	10 075	6 486	(58 154)
April	3 023	838	4 977	9 276	330	3 825	3 584	4 698	30 426	3 447	10 102	6 758	(58 149)
May	2 990	723	5 173	9 603	331	3 804	3 489	4 642	30 646	3 321	10 398	6 400	(58 385)
June	3 109	796	5 101	9 909	352	3 853	3 465	4 951	31 499	3 411	10 074	6 552	(59 582)
July	2 978	818	5 162	9 482	397	3 549	3 666	5 021	31 097	(3 522)	10 246	(6 910)	(59 282)
August	2 989	846	5 411	9 861	397	3 850	3 844	4 823	32 170	(3 432)	9 479	(6 661)	(59 806)
September	3 293	861	5 670	10 199	405	3 571	3 709	5 106	32 885	(3 336)	10 884	(6 565)	(61 438)
October	3 083	835	5 765	10 369	345	3 548	3 670	5 017	32 724	3 453	9 174	6 773	59 840
November	3 173	890	5 488	10 197	418	3 999	3 776	4 898	33 268	3 074	9 093	7 145	60 620
December	3 593	984	6 212	11 482	463	4 517	4 189	5 392	36 820	3 950	11 218	7 319	68 427
1978 January [5]	3 641	885	5 650	10 942	493	3 717	4 044	5 363	34 455	3 252		7 784	
February	3 228	947	5 724	10 772	417	3 962	4 083	6 031	34 822	3 939		8 154	
March	3 383	844	5 951	10 680	454	3 841	3 841	5 668		3 565		7 960	
April		998	6 467	12 108	467	4 928		5 651		4 381			
May								5 479					
June								5 556					

[1] See notes to table 9 below.

Source: United Kingdom. Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Table 9 Imports (cif) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada [3 4]	United States [2 4]	Japan [3]	OECD [3]
1970	11 352	4 380	19 116	29 808	1 572	14 940	13 392	21 696	116 280	13 308	39 960	18 876	225 649
1971	12 390	4 476	21 261	34 356	1 838	16 026	15 159	23 918	129 403	15 460	45 633	19 716	250 717
1972	14 879	4 988	26 696	39 759	2 113	19 252	17 127	27 877	152 643	18 924	55 819	23 463	297 984
1973	21 936	7 704	37 380	54 492	2 784	27 816	24 360	38 872	215 232	23 304	69 120	38 316	410 820
1974	29 700	9 852	52 824	68 976	3 816	40 968	33 204	54 344	293 568	32 292	100 968	62 112	583 020
1975	30 708	10 332	54 240	74 208	3 804	38 364	35 148	53 618	300 048	33 960	96 936	57 864	587 376
1976	35 352	12 420	64 392	87 780	4 200	43 368	39 948	56 269	343 428	37 956	121 788	64 800	676 308
1977	40 248	13 260	70 488	100 704	5 388	47 556	45 600	63 740	386 940	39 540	147 852	70 812	765 936
1976 1st quarter	7 656	2 823	14 925	19 836	999	9 984	8 826	13 335	78 602	9 249	27 308	14 946	154 935
2nd	7 995	3 000	15 495	20 967	994	10 644	9 378	13 942	82 413	9 567	29 290	15 546	162 039
3rd	8 427	3 165	16 413	22 475	1 068	10 737	10 086	14 386	86 680	9 582	32 024	16 863	173 049
4th	9 174	3 330	17 493	24 078	1 121	11 859	11 607	14 606	93 334	9 486	32 652	17 256	182 874
1977 1st quarter	9 513	3 317	17 409	24 170	1 258	11 781	11 292	15 322	94 292	9 885	35 405	17 664	186 291
2nd	9 483	3 240	17 196	24 115	1 271	12 276	11 214	16 429	95 020	10 119	37 721	17 484	190 467
3rd	9 414	3 385	17 721	25 593	1 422	11 010	11 514	15 779	95 811	9 948	37 600	17 832	192 681
4th	10 143	3 344	18 658	27 435	1 481	12 458	11 816	16 210	101 804	9 840	37 640	18 099	198 207
1978 1st quarter [5]	11 066	3 411	19 018	28 054	1 551	11 637	12 307	19 023		9 694		18 444	
2nd								18 704					
1976 October	2 982	1 096	5 796	7 740	363	3 745	3 617	4 724	30 118	3 119	10 771	5 744	(58 934)
November	3 091	1 099	5 958	7 710	383	4 389	3 499	4 947	31 100	3 218	10 731	5 888	(61 315)
December	3 100	1 134	5 740	8 627	375	3 726	4 490	4 935	32 117	3 148	11 150	5 625	(62 477)
1977 January	3 204	1 087	5 912	8 220	443	3 821	3 846	5 520	32 116	3 243	11 371	6 009	(62 340)
February	3 102	1 038	5 702	7 834	406	4 008	3 807	4 872	30 794	3 319	11 697	5 732	(61 084)
March	3 206	1 192	5 796	8 116	410	3 950	3 637	4 930	31 382	3 321	12 337	5 922	(62 727)
April	3 150	1 022	5 515	7 745	406	4 167	3 727	5 183	30 872	3 425	12 593	5 859	(62 469)
May	3 171	1 085	5 740	8 170	426	4 206	3 727	5 394	31 863	3 391	12 334	5 850	(63 156)
June	3 161	1 134	5 943	8 201	439	3 902	3 761	5 851	32 285	3 302	12 793	5 775	(64 805)
July	2 854	1 073	5 692	8 606	461	3 700	3 788	5 475	31 510	(3 328)	12 781	(5 788)	(63 948)
August	3 390	1 137	6 052	8 393	468	3 736	3 963	4 936	32 140	(3 257)	12 167	(6 067)	(64 539)
September	3 171	1 175	5 975	8 594	493	3 574	3 762	5 369	32 161	(3 267)	12 652	(5 856)	(64 079)
October	3 148	1 089	5 944	8 557	472	4 144	3 741	5 337	32 562	3 268	11 954	5 769	63 591
November	3 390	1 092	6 429	8 773	477	3 910	3 911	4 998	33 321	2 961	11 581	6 006	64 162
December	3 605	1 163	6 285	10 105	532	4 404	4 164	5 875	35 921	3 611	14 105	6 324	70 454
1978 January [5]	3 723	1 147	6 503	9 824	582	3 700	4 171	6 334	35 935	3 024		6 234	
February	3 719	1 134	6 137	9 252	505	4 035	4 202	6 126	34 776	3 711		6 311	
March	3 624	1 130	6 378	8 978	464	3 902	3 934	6 563		2 959		5 899	
April		1 184	6 724	10 104	528	4 514		5 603		4 242			
May								6 615					
June								6 486					

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] The OECD has revised the seasonally adjusted figures. It has been possible to include only the published revisions at this stage. For this reason the monthly figures in brackets do not necessarily add to the quarters. [4] fob. [5] In these tables, from January 1978, the trade of Ireland and the United Kingdom is classified according to SITC Rev 2. The changes are described in an article in 'Trade and Industry' 10 February 1978, which also gives for the UK an indication of the magnitude of the change. It is thought that other countries have also adopted this classification from the beginning of 1978, but the extent of the discontinuity has not been ascertained. Percentage changes may be misleading and have therefore been omitted.

Source: United Kingdom, Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A" '

Machine tool home market continues buoyant

Metal-working machine tool sales and orders in April

The current value of machine tool sales increased further in the three months to April on provisional estimates. However, allowing for inflation and seasonal changes, overall activity has changed little in recent months; there is a wide variation between firms. The current values of total new orders received have continued to exceed the level of sales, with the decline in export orders, being outweighed by continued growth in home order books. Employment has been falling slightly in 1978 and slipped again in April to 51 500.

Recent trends

The provisional estimate for April 1978, together with the revised estimates for February and March, shows that sales of machine tools by UK manufacturers rose by 7 per cent in current value terms over the level in the previous three months and by 26 per cent over a year earlier. These increases include components due to price movements, but there is also some evidence of seasonal effects occurring (perhaps due to the end of financial years), which suggests that the high figure in March is a transient one. This leads to the view that there has been little change in volume over the past three months, although there would appear to have been an appreciable rise in volume compared with a year earlier.

The overall intake of new orders (net of cancellations) in the three months to April was 7 per cent higher than in the previous three months and 14 per cent higher than a year earlier. Total new orders were valued at £127 million in the three months to April and exceeded the level of sales by 10 per cent, hence order books increased by 4 per cent. An increase of 12 per cent in home new orders to £90 million was partly offset by a fall of 3 per cent in orders from abroad to £36 million. Compared with a year earlier orders from the home market were 36 per cent higher, while new export business was 18 per cent lower. Total new orders were 14 per cent higher than a year earlier in current value terms, but probably little different in volume.

Overall order books stood at £274 million at the end of April 1978, 4 per cent higher than in January and 21 per cent higher than a year earlier. Home order books have been rising steadily to £181 million in April, 57 per cent higher than a year earlier. Export orders-on-hand, however, had fallen to £93 million at the end of April, 17 per cent lower than a year earlier.

In terms of current activity the overall order book is sufficient to maintain the industry until the end of the year.

Table 1 **Metal-working machine tools: orders and sales** £ million, current values

	Sales			Orders outstanding [1]			New orders		
	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export
1972	184.7	111.6	73.1	113.3	55.7	57.6	192.0	121.3	70.7
1973	213.2	129.1	84.1	216.0	120.4	95.6	315.9	193.8	122.1
1974	254.4	149.9	104.5	312.9	164.1	148.8	347.9	191.9	156.0
1975	325.4	186.4	139.0	229.8	117.6	112.2	246.8	144.7	102.1
1976 r	352.0	208.6	143.4	193.5	100.9	92.6	315.7	191.9	123.8
1977 r	395.2	245.4	149.8	260.6	158.8	101.8	462.3	303.3	159.0
1976									
2nd qtr	81.1	46.9	34.2	190.6	101.9	88.7	76.4	48.6	27.8
3rd	76.0	47.0	29.0	203.9	109.8	94.1	89.3	54.9	34.4
4th r	100.1	63.4	36.7	193.5	100.9	92.6	89.7	54.5	35.2
1977									
1st qtr r	99.5	61.7	37.8	221.2	109.8	111.4	127.2	70.6	56.6
2nd r	90.8	57.2	33.6	252.6	139.8	112.8	122.2	87.2	35.0
3rd r	97.2	60.7	36.5	260.1	150.0	110.1	104.1	70.9	33.8
4th r	107.7	65.8	41.9	260.6	158.8	101.8	108.2	74.6	33.6
1978									
1st qtr r	119.7	76.1	43.6	260.4	166.0	94.4	119.5	83.3	36.2
1977									
January r	34.9	20.9	14.0	208.1	106.8	101.3	49.5	26.8	22.7
February r	28.1	17.0	11.1	215.3	110.5	104.8	35.3	20.7	14.6
March r	36.5	23.8	12.7	221.2	109.8	111.4	42.4	23.1	19.3
April r	27.3	17.4	9.9	227.0	115.2	111.8	33.1	22.8	10.3
May r	32.4	20.2	12.2	238.4	128.0	110.4	43.8	33.0	10.8
June r	31.1	19.6	11.5	252.6	139.8	112.8	45.3	31.4	13.9
July r	28.3	18.9	9.4	256.3	145.8	110.5	32.0	24.9	7.1
August r	31.8	20.9	10.9	259.2	146.9	112.3	34.7	22.0	12.7
September r	37.1	20.9	16.2	260.1	150.0	110.1	38.0	24.0	14.0
October r	34.3	19.9	14.4	252.7	150.2	102.5	26.9	20.1	6.8
November r	36.4	21.8	14.6	257.8	155.3	102.5	41.5	26.9	14.6
December r	37.0	24.1	12.9	260.6	158.8	101.8	39.8	27.6	12.2
1978									
January r	34.3	21.6	12.7	263.3	163.5	99.8	37.0	26.3	10.7
February r	38.1	24.5	13.6	268.8	168.9	99.9	43.6	29.9	13.7
March r	47.3	30.0	17.3	260.4	166.0	94.4	38.9	27.1	11.8
April p	30.2	18.3	11.9	274.3	181.1	93.2	44.1	33.4	10.7
Three monthly totals:									
Feb-Ap1978	115.6	72.8	42.8	274.3	181.1	93.2	126.6	90.4	36.2
Nov 1977-Jan 1978	107.7	67.5	40.2	263.3	163.5	99.8	118.3	80.8	37.5
Feb-Ap 1977	91.9	58.2	33.7	227.0	115.2	111.8	110.8	66.6	44.2
Percentage change latest three months on:									
1 Previous three months	+7	+8	+6	+4	+11	−7	+7	+12	−3
2 A year earlier	+26	+25	+27	+21	+57	−17	+14	+36	−18

[1] The values for orders outstanding relate to the ends of the the periods shown. p Provisional. r Revised.

Employment

Recent movements in the employment estimates indicate that employment has fallen back slightly in 1978, having risen throughout 1977.

Adjustment of estimates

The monthly estimates up to and including March 1978 have been adjusted to be consistent with the more comprehensive quarterly inquiry recently published and the latest provisional estimates will be revised when the appropriate information becomes available. Net new orders and orders-on-hand have been adjusted to the same basis of coverage and valuation as sales.

The monthly statistics will be published in Business Monitor PM 332 and full details of the quarterly inquiry can be found in the Business Monitor PQ 332.

Inquiries on the published series: Department of Industry, Mechanical Engineering Statistics, Room 605, Dean Bradley House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 0687.

Table 2 **Metal-working machine tools: employment estimates**

Thousands

1976		**1977**		**1977**	
1st qtr	51.2	1st qtr	51.0	Nov r	52.1
2nd	50.3	2nd	51.0	Dec r	52.2
3rd	50.8	3rd	51.6		
4th	50.9	4th	52.2 r	**1978**	
				Jan r	51.8
		1978		Feb r	51.7
		1st qtr	51.7 r	Mar r	51.6
				Apr p	51.5

r Revised. p Provisional.

Motor vehicle production in June

Car production in the five weeks ending 1 July of 122 110 units (24 422 per week) was 4 per cent higher than the June 1977 level. In the first six months to June 1978, car production was 3 per cent higher than in the same period last year, production for export falling by 8 per cent while that for the home market rose by 11 per cent.

Commercial vehicle production of 39 478 (7896 per week) was 20 per cent higher than in June 1977. Production in the first six months to June was 3 per cent above that in the corresponding period last year. Production for export fell by 10 per cent while production for the home market rose by 16 per cent.

The summaries which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in table 2.

Cars

Car production in June of 111 000 units was 1 per cent above the average monthly level in 1977. Output in the three months April to June fell by 3 per cent compared with the preceding three months; within the total, production for export fell by 14 per cent while production for the home market rose by 4 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle production in June of 34 500 units was 4 per cent above the average montly level in 1977. In the period April to June, output rose by 5 per cent compared with the preceding three months. Output for the home market rose by 14 per cent while that for export fell by 4 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0788.

Table 1 Car and commercial vehicle production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

	No of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
		For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1969	53	892 758	824 315	1 717 073	32 398	272 998	192 778	465 776	8 788
1970	52	918 109	722 857	1 640 966	31 557	267 407	190 125	457 532	8 799
1971	52	1 027 462	714 478	1 741 940	33 499	268 278	187 928	456 206	8 773
1972	52	1 307 881	613 430	1 921 311	36 948	272 649	135 470	408 119	7 848
1973	52	1 142 216	605 105	1 747 321	33 602	257 574	159 049	416 623	8 012
1974	52	937 932	596 187	1 534 119	29 502	232 373	170 193	402 566	7 742
1975	52	735 532	532 164	1 267 696	24 379	194 319	186 386	380 705	7 321
1976	53	768 481	564 968	1 333 449	25 159	182 554	189 503	372 057	7 020
1977	52	753 195	562 777	1 315 972	25 307	201 445	196 823	398 268	7 659
1978	52								
1977									
1st qtr	13	180 813	149 558	330 371	25 413	51 826	57 676	109 502	8 423
2nd	13	209 665	161 386	371 051	28 542	49 299	51 945	101 244	7 788
3rd	13	166 116	104 554	270 670	20 821	44 036	41 832	85 868	6 605
4th	13	196 601	147 279	343 880	26 452	56 284	45 370	101 654	7 820
1978									
1st qtr	13	210 561	147 930	358 491	27 576	54 949	48 733	103 682	7 976
2nd	13	223 890	138 932	362 822	27 909	61 941	50 322	112 263	8 636
3rd	13								
4th	13								
1977									
January	4	66 119	54 069	120 188	30 047	16 932	17 402	34 334	8 584
February	4	49 573	46 109	95 682	23 921	15 376	17 822	33 198	8 300
March	5	65 121	49 380	114 501	22 900	19 518	22 452	41 970	8 394
April	4	64 475	48 998	113 473	28 368	13 394	16 133	29 527	7 382
May	4	80 099	60 057	140 156	35 039	18 860	20 020	38 880	9 720
June	5	65 091	52 331	117 422	23 484	17 045	15 792	32 837	6 567
July	4	47 156	27 939	75 095	18 774	13 007	14 020	27 027	6 757
August	4	51 565	27 605	79 170	19 793	12 628	10 869	23 497	5 874
September	5	67 395	49 010	116 405	23 281	18 401	16 943	35 344	7 069
October	4	55 346	47 810	103 156	25 789	19 283	14 863	34 146	8 537
November	4	63 333	49 199	112 532	28 133	18 198	12 807	31 005	7 751
December	5	77 922	50 270	128 192	25 638	18 803	17 700	36 503	7 301
1978									
January	4	67 488	43 961	111 449	27 862	16 396	14 717	31 113	7 778
February	4	65 029	42 883	107 912	26 978	15 699	14 959	30 658	7 665
March	5	78 044	61 086	139 130	27 826	22 854	19 057	41 911	8 382
April	4	68 388	50 721	119 109	29 777	18 802	16 169	34 971	8 743
May	4	76 240	45 363	121 603	30 401	20 824	16 990	37 814	9 454
June	5	79 262	42 848	122 110	24 422	22 315	17 163	39 478	7 896

Note: From January 1978, Land-Rover estate vehicles are being recorded as commercial vehicles rather than as passenger cars. Figures for 1977 have been revised on to this basis. The number of these vehicles in 1977 was 11 848.

Table 2 Production seasonally adjusted

Monthly average — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1977	63	47	110	16.8	16.4	33.2
1978						
1977						
1st qtr	56	49	105	16.2	18.6	34.8
2nd	67	50	117	16.1	16.3	32.4
3rd	67	42	109	17.4	16.5	33.9
4th	61	47	108	17.5	14.3	31.8
1978						
1st qtr	68	49	117	17.5	16.2	33.7
2nd	71	42	113	20.0	15.4	35.4
1977						
January	63	58	121	17.6	19.1	36.7
February	52	47	99	15.4	17.9	33.3
March	54	43	97	15.6	18.6	34.2
April	70	52	122	14.6	17.6	32.2
May	69	53	122	18.1	17.8	35.9
June	63	45	108	15.7	13.5	29.2
July	64	41	105	16.8	16.6	33.4
August	66	36	102	17.6	16.7	34.3
September	70	50	120	17.8	16.1	33.9
October	55	48	103	18.1	15.2	33.3
November	58	46	104	17.1	12.8	29.9
December	70	46	116	17.1	15.0	32.1
1978						
January	65	47	112	17.2	16.3	33.5
February	68	44	112	15.9	15.2	31.1
March	69	57	126	19.5	16.9	36.4
April	71	50	121	19.5	16.8	36,3
May	66	40	106	20.2	15.2	35.4
June	75	36	111	20.2	14.3	34.5
Average of						
Jan-Mar 78	68	49	117	17.6	16.1	33.7
Apr-Jun 1978	71	42	113	20.0	15.4	35.4
Percentage change	+4	−14	−3	+14	−4	+5

Notes to table 2: The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

Statistical News

This quarterly publication, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is designed to keep the user of statistics in touch with all that is going on in the world of official statistics. Each issue contains notes on current developments as well as several articles treating selected topics in greater depth. A list of new surveys reported to the CSO's Survey Control Unit is also included.

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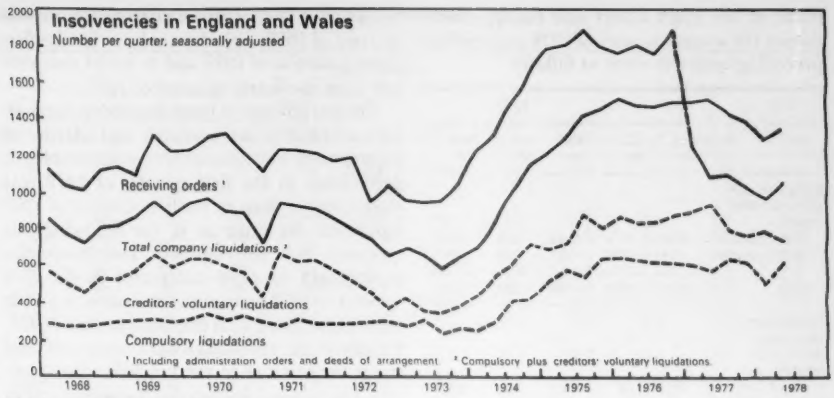
Insolvencies in England and Wales: second quarter



Company liquidations and receiving orders both rose in the second quarter of 1978, partly offsetting the falls in recent quarters.

Table 1 shows that, on a seasonally adjusted basis, total company liquidations, which had fallen for three quarters, rose to about 1360 in the second quarter of 1978, compared with about 1310 in the previous quarter. The rise was more than accounted for by a rise in compulsory liquidations from about 510 to about 590; creditors' voluntary liquidations fell from about 800 to about 770. Before seasonal adjustment, there were 1376 company liquidations in the second quarter of 1978 made up of 607 compulsory liquidations and 769 creditors' voluntary liquidations. The total is about 10 per cent lower than a year earlier with compulsory liquidations about 1 per cent higher and creditors' voluntary liquidations about 17 per cent lower.

Table 1 also shows, on a seasonally adjusted basis, that receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement), which had fallen for two quarters, rose to about 1060 in the second quarter of 1978 compared with about 950 in the previous quarter. Before seasonal adjustment there were 1058 receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) in the second quarter of 1978, about 3 per cent lower than a year earlier.

The chart illustrates the changes in the number of insolvencies, seasonally adjusted, in each quarter over the last 10 years. Changes in the number of company liquidations and in the number of receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) have been broadly similar and both reached a trough at much the same time in mid-1973, subsequently rising steadily to historically very high levels in 1975 and 1976. Both types of insolvency then fell, company liquidations fairly sharply from the third quarter of 1977, receiving orders abruptly from the first quarter of 1977. Much, if not all, the fall in receiving orders in the first half of 1977 was caused by increases in monetary limits in bankruptcy proceedings and in deposits on bankruptcy petitions, which came into effect in December 1976 (see notes at the end of article), and it is probable that the underlying fall in receiving orders did not begin until the fourth quarter of 1977. On this basis it can be seen that the rise in receiving orders in the latest quarter substantially offsets the recent underlying fall. There were no such complications for company liquidations, however, and their rise in the latest quarter represents a relatively modest reversal of the earlier falls.

High Court and county court figures

The numbers of receiving and administration orders and of compulsory winding-up orders

Table 1 Insolvencies

England and Wales — Number

	Bankruptcies					Company liquidations					
	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted			Seasonally adjusted		
	Total	Receiving orders	Administration orders	Deeds of arrangement	Total	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary
1968	4 298	4 123	27	148		3 165	1 108	2 057			
1969	4 772	4 532	20	220		3 510	1 181	2 329			
1970	5 087	4 878	29	180		3 689	1 269	2 420			
1971	4 793	4 630	13	150		3 506	1 166	2 340			
1972	4 337	4 225	19	93		3 063	1 150	1 913			
1973	3 917	3 805	12	100		2 575	1 080	1 495			
1974	5 718	5 595	13	110		3 720	1 395	2 325			
1975	7 271	7 123	20	128		5 398	2 287	3 111			
1976	7 207	7 089	19	99		5 939	2 511	3 428			
1977	4 485	4 388	15	82		5 831	2 425	3 406			
1968											
1st qtr	1 231	1 190		41	1 121	897	307	590	850	287	563
2nd	1 024	985		39	1 040	775	279	496	772	271	501
3rd	932	907		25	1 020	586	148	438	731	270	461
4th	1 111	1 068		43	1 117	907	374	533	812	280	532
1969											
1st qtr	1 231	1 173		58	1 135	872	318	554	824	296	528
2nd	1 095	1 055		40	1 094	871	308	563	864	298	566
3rd	1 215	1 157		58	1 319	798	171	627	957	305	652
4th	1 231	1 167		64	1 224	969	384	585	865	282	583
1970											
1st qtr	1 314	1 273		41	1 236	981	318	663	942	305	637
2nd	1 321	1 280		41	1 308	966	339	627	971	335	636
3rd	1 219	1 174		45	1 324	744	169	575	893	303	590
4th	1 233	1 180		53	1 219	998	443	555	883	326	557
1971											
1st qtr	1 171	1 145		26	1 110	760	310	450	730	297	433
2nd	1 253	1 205		48	1 237	945	285	660	942	275	667
3rd	1 137	1 092		45	1 233	777	172	605	925	308	617
4th	1 232	1 201		31	1 213	1 024	399	625	909	286	623
1972											
1st qtr	1 222	1 197		25	1 166	877	291	586	855	284	571
2nd	1 200	1 175		25	1 187	799	293	506	799	284	515
3rd	866	844		22	945	614	160	454	753	291	462
4th	1 049	1 028		21	1 039	773	406	367	656	291	365
1973											
1st qtr	1 011	982		29	954	710	273	437	700	271	429
2nd	952	919		33	941	653	308	345	655	302	353
3rd	875	858		17	955	463	130	333	579	241	338
4th	1 079	1 058		21	1 067	749	369	380	641	266	375
1974											
1st qtr	1 322	1 296		26	1 230	713	264	449	701	258	443
2nd	1 341	1 314		27	1 329	844	309	535	847	297	550
3rd	1 377	1 355		22	1 500	829	224	605	1 023	415	608
4th	1 678	1 643		35	1 659	1 334	598	736	1 149	425	724
1975											
1st qtr	1 938	1 900		38	1 782	1 238	540	698	1 218	525	693
2nd	1 816	1 783		33	1 807	1 317	593	724	1 311	580	731
3rd	1 719	1 693		26	1 888	1 138	279	859	1 417	541	876
4th	1 798	1 767		31	1 794	1 705	875	830	1 452	641	811
1976											
1st qtr	1 921	1 891		30	1 758	1 554	687	867	1 514	646	868
2nd	1 807	1 785		22	1 807	1 490	653	837	1 471	631	840
3rd	1 592	1 571		21	1 750	1 150	324	826	1 462	619	843
4th	1 887	1 861		26	1 892	1 745	847	898	1 492	615	877
1977											
1st qtr	1 373	1 350		23	1 259	1 542	653	889	1 497	605	892
2nd	1 092	1 067		25	1 096	1 533	602	931	1 511	579	932
3rd	1 002	980		22	1 105	1 125	336	789	1 440	638	802
4th	1 018	1 006		12	1 025	1 631	834	797	1 383	603	780
1978											
1st qtr	1 043	1 028		15	951	1 346	549	797	1 313	510	803
2nd	1 058	1 036		22	1 060	1 376	607	769	1 359	589	770

made in the High Court and county courts during the second quarter of 1978 and the four preceding quarters were as follows:

	1977			1978	
	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr
Receiving and administration orders:					
High Court	476	374	445	424	460
County courts	591	606	561	604	576
Total	1 067	980	1 006	1 028	1 036
Compulsory liquidation winding-up orders:					
High Court	485	226	710	450	506
County courts	117	110	124	99	101
Total	602	336	834	549	607

Industrial analysis

Table 2 gives the industrial analysis of receiving orders administered (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) up to the first quarter of 1978. This table excludes orders that were rescinded before the business of the debtor could be investigated and deeds that were voided; the figures therefore do not agree with those in table 1, which are for all receiving orders, administration orders and deeds of arrangement made. The data vary from quarter to quarter though there is a tendency for certain groups, eg construction, always to form a large proportion of the total. The compilation of the data for the fourth quarter of each year differs from that for the first three quarters. For this reason, it is preferable to compare the industrial analysis for the first quarter of 1978 with the analyses for the first three quarters of 1977 and to avoid comparison with the fourth quarter of 1977.

The percentage of receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) accounted for by self-employed individuals in the first quarter of 1978 was rather higher than in the first quarter of 1977 but much the same as in the following two quarters. For self-employed individuals the percentages in most categories in the first quarter of 1978 were about the same or a little higher compared with the first quarter of 1977, though all the differences were very small, and much the same as in the two following quarters. The largest change over the period was in construction, in which the percentage rose from about 20 per cent to about 25 per cent between the first and second quarters of 1977, falling to about 22 per cent in the third quarter of 1977 and 21½ per cent in the first quarter of 1978.

Table 3 gives the industrial analysis of company liquidations up to the first quarter of 1978. There had been some sharp changes in the analysis for the previous quarter compared with the quarter before that. In the first quarter of 1978 most of these changes were partly reversed. The percentage in manufacturing for example, which had fallen from about 26 per cent in the third quarter of 1977 to about 17 per cent in the fourth quarter, rose to 21 per cent in the first quarter of 1978, and most of the categories within manufacuring followed a similar pattern.

The largest reversals in the other direction were in road haulage, where the percentage fell to about 4 per cent in the first quarter of 1978, after rising from about 4 per cent to about 6 per cent in the previous quarter, and in other consumer services, where the percentage fell to about 7 per cent after rising from about 7 per cent to about 9 per cent in the previous quarter. The percentage in construction, again the largest single category, fell to 18 per cent, after rising from about 15½ per cent to about 19½ per cent in the previous quarter. Exceptions to this pattern included non-food retailing, where the percentage rose to 14 per cent after rising from about 9 per cent to about 13 per cent in the previous quarter, financial and professional services, where the percentage rose to nearly 16 per cent after rising from about 9 per cent to the already high level of about 15½ per cent in the previous quarter, and other industries, where the percentage fell to about 5 per cent after falling from about 13 per cent to the already low level of 5½ per cent in the previous quarter.

Small changes in the industrial analyses should not necessarily be regarded as significant, if only because of the difficulty of making precise industrial classification in many cases and the erratic nature of the series.

Notes

An article describing these statistics and giving quarterly figures from the beginning of 1960 to the end of 1974 (with industrial analyses from the beginning of 1969 to the third quarter of 1974) was published in *Economic Trends* for March 1975.

The figures for bankruptcies in table 1 refer to persons, who are dealt with under the Bankruptcy Act 1914 and the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Act 1926 or who make arrangements with their creditors under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914. A receiving order is made by the court on the petition of a creditor if it is satisfied that the debtor has committed an act of bankruptcy, as listed in section 1 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, or on the petition of the debtor himself. The order makes the official

Table 2 Industrial analysis of receiving orders administered [1]

England and Wales

	Numbers							Percentages						
			1977				1978			1977				1978
Industry	1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
Self-employed														
Agriculture	135	72	19	18	14	21	21	2.0	1.7	1.7	2.1	1.7	1.5	2.4
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chemicals	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—
Metals and engineering	65	43	2	8	8	25	12	1.0	1.0	0.2	0.9	1.0	1.8	1.3
Textiles and clothing	44	32	1	10	8	13	6	0.6	0.8	0.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7
Timber and furniture	31	24	5	1	1	17	2	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.2
Paper, printing and publishing	29	16	2	1	4	9	1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.1
Other manufacturing	16	13	1	1	3	8	—	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6	—
Total manufacturing	185	130	11	21	24	74	21	2.7	3.1	1.0	2.4	2.9	5.4	2.4
Construction	1 564	986	227	219	179	361	192	23.0	23.6	20.4	25.3	21.7	26.3	21.5
Road haulage	405	252	47	51	47	107	51	6.0	6.0	4.2	5.9	5.7	7.8	5.7
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	77	44	11	10	4	19	3	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.5	1.4	0.3
Non-consumer goods	60	62	18	13	9	22	20	0.9	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.6	2.2
Retailing:														
Food	382	273	61	58	58	96	61	5.6	6.5	5.5	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.8
Non-food	764	517	137	97	112	171	113	11.2	12.4	12.3	11.2	13.6	12.4	12.7
Financial and professional services	317	213	52	35	41	85	34	4.7	5.1	4.7	4.1	5.0	6.2	3.8
Hotels and restaurants	358	239	59	51	49	80	58	5.3	5.7	5.3	5.9	6.0	5.8	6.5
Garages	249	175	29	27	29	90	36	3.7	4.2	2.6	3.1	3.5	6.5	4.0
Other consumer services	233	152	37	26	30	59	41	3.4	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.6	4.3	4.6
Other industries	69	36	11	6	7	12	9	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0
Total	4 798	3 151	719	632	603	1 197	660	70.6	75.4	64.5	73.1	73.3	87.1	74.0
Other individuals														
Employees, no occupation and unemployed	1 467	625	302	172	151	—	171	21.6	15.0	27.1	19.9	18.3	—	19.2
Directors and promoters of companies	430	357	74	47	58	178	47	6.3	8.5	6.6	5.4	7.0	12.9	5.3
Occupation unknown	101	44	20	13	11	—	14	1.5	1.1	1.8	1.5	1.3	—	1.6
Total	1 998	1 026	396	232	220	178	232	29.4	24.6	35.5	26.9	26.7	12.9	26.0
All receiving orders administered	6 796	4 177	1 115	864	823	1 375	892	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Receiving orders made during the year, *less* those consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year, together with administration orders and deeds of arrangement on the same basis. The totals for all receiving orders administered are thus not equal to the totals shown in table 1. The construction of the quarterly figures is explained in the notes at the end of the article.

Table 3 Industrial analysis of total compulsory and creditors' voluntary liquidations.

England and Wales

Industry	Numbers							Percentages						
			1977				1978			1977				1978
	1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
Agriculture	25	25	7	7	3	8	8	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	54	38	7	18	2	11	8	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.2	0.7	0.6
Chemicals	48	31	5	14	2	10	6	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.4
Metals and engineering	419	343	85	88	94	76	72	7.1	5.9	5.5	5.7	8.4	4.7	5.3
Textiles and clothing	257	239	66	58	59	56	63	4.3	4.1	4.3	3.8	5.2	3.4	4.7
Timber and furniture	121	128	27	36	29	36	33	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.3	2.6	2.2	2.5
Paper, printing and publishing	163	136	29	42	35	30	33	2.7	2.3	1.9	2.7	3.1	1.8	2.5
Other manufacturing	257	264	58	71	75	60	67	4.3	4.5	3.8	4.6	6.7	3.7	5.0
Total manufacturing	1 319	1 179	277	327	296	279	282	22.2	20.2	18.0	21.3	26.3	17.1	21.0
Construction	977	1 004	256	258	176	314	242	16.5	17.2	16.6	16.8	15.6	19.3	18.0
Road haulage	273	256	55	59	47	95	51	4.6	4.4	3.6	3.8	4.2	5.8	3.8
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	191	291	73	65	46	107	68	3.2	5.0	4.7	4.2	4.1	6.6	5.1
Non-consumer goods	237	185	51	50	41	43	34	4.0	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.6	2.6	2.5
Retailing:														
Food	113	96	31	24	21	20	33	1.9	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.2	2.5
Non-food	626	692	203	181	103	205	188	10.5	11.9	13.2	11.8	9.2	12.6	14.0
Financial and professional services	904	723	209	156	104	254	213	15.2	12.4	13.6	10.2	9.2	15.6	15.8
Hotels and restaurants	161	144	35	32	38	39	39	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.1	3.4	2.4	2.9
Garages	118	108	32	28	24	24	24	2.0	1.9	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.5	1.8
Other consumer services	489	506	143	132	78	153	98	8.2	8.7	9.3	8.6	6.9	9.4	7.3
Other industries	506	622	170	214	148	90	66	8.5	10.7	11.0	14.0	13.2	5.5	4.9
Total	5 939	5 831	1 542	1 533	1 125	1 631	1 346	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

receiver who is an officer of the court, receiver of the debtor's estate and deprives the debtor of the right to deal with it. Administration orders, which are made under section 130 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, relate to deceased insolvents. Deeds of arrangement relate to arrangements between debtors and creditors that are reached, without recourse to the courts, under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914.

Insolvent partnerships are dealt with under the bankruptcy acts and are included in the figures for receiving orders in table 1. A single receiving order may be made against a partnership or receiving orders may be made against partners individually, when each is included in table 1. If separate receiving orders are made, they are consolidated before being proceeded with and appear as a single receiving order in table 2.

Receiving orders administered, referred to in table 2, are those receiving orders not consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year. For the first three quarters of the year, the industrial anaysis in table 2 is compiled about two months after the end of the quarter, to allow time for the statistics to be collected. Some of these receiving orders may later be rescinded. The analysis for the fourth quarter is obtained by subtracting the figures for the first three quarters from the figures for the full year. The industrial analysis for the full year takes account of revisions to the figures for the first three quarters and these are reflected in the analysis for the fourth quarter. It is therefore not appropriate to compare the industrial analysis for the fourth quarter with the analysis for the earlier quarters of the year.

Insolvent companies are dealt with under the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967 and the figures for company liquidations in table 1 refer to the two types of liquidation that involve insolvency. The figures for compulsory liquidations relate to winding-up orders made by the courts. The figures for creditors' voluntary liquidations, in which the company and its creditors come to terms without court proceedings, relate to notifications of resolutions to wind up. There is a third type, members' voluntary liquidations: these do not involve insolvency and they are not included in the figures in this article.

The Insolvency Act 1976 changed some aspects of the law relating to both bankruptcy and company liquidation. Its provisions include an increase in the minimum debt to support a creditor's petition for bankruptcy from £50 to £200; and under an amendment to the Bankruptcy Rules 1952, the deposits required on bankruptcy petitions were increased from £5 to £50 for debtors' petitions and from £7.50 to £90 for creditors' petitions. These changes have had a substantial effect on the number of bankruptcy petitions, and hence on the number of receiving orders, from the beginning of 1977.

There is considerable seasonal variation between quarters in the insolvency series, mainly because about 40 per cent of all receiving orders and about 80 per cent of all compulsory liquidations are dealt with by the High Court, which has fewer sittings in the third quarter compared with other quarters because of the long vacation. For receiving orders, the seasonal fall in the third quarter is made up mainly in the following first quarter. Compulsory liquidations are more strongly seasonal, with a large fall in the third quarter followed by a large rise in the fourth. Creditor's voluntary liquidations are not particularly seasonal but seasonally adjusted figures for them are included in table 1.

Questions are often asked about the distribution of insolvencies by size or by region but it would be impracticable or very costly to compile statistics of this sort. There is no satisfactory measure of the size of an insolvency because a business tends to decline over a period and there are the problems of deciding for what time the size should be assessed and what measure should be used, and of obtaining this information retrospectively.

For regional statistics of bankruptcy, figures for receiving orders dealt with in the various courts provide some basis because cases are transferred to the court for the area in which the debtor lives or has his place of business. Annual figures for receiving orders analysed by court are given in the bankruptcy general annual report and quarterly figures so analysed are given in the *London Gazette*. Regional statistics of company liquidations cannot be obtained in this way, because of the large proportion of cases dealt with by the High Court. There is also the difficulty that, although the address of the company's registered office may be known, the activities of the company are often located elsewhere and often extend over a wide area.

Inquiries: Economics and Statistics Division 6a, Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Room 248, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5538.

Wholesale textile houses: sales and stocks in May

Table 1 Textiles: wholesale sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

		Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966		110	−3	..	..
1967		104	−5	..	..
1968		108	4	..	..
1969		103	−5	..	..
1970		107	4	..	..
1971		115	8	..	..
1972		121	5	..	..
1973		134	11	..	..
1974		147	9	..	..
1975		147	1	..	..
1976		146	−1	..	..
1977		149	2	..	..
1976	1st quarter	133	−8	234	7
	2nd quarter	127	−6	212	8
	3rd quarter	149	2	204	6
	4th quarter	176	8	228	2
1977	1st quarter	140	5	252	7
	2nd quarter	125	−2	224	6
	3rd quarter	153	3	214	5
	4th quarter	180	2	228	—
1978	1st quarter	144	3	234	−7
1977	May	129	1	242	11
	June	108	−9	224	6
	July	119	3	239	8
	August	142	4	227	5
	September	199	3	214	5
	October	201	9	212	2
	November	163	−4	245	7
	December	175	—	228	—
1978	January	91	7	213	−3
	February	149	1	224	−10
	March	191	3	234	−7
	April	138	−1	211	−8
	May	148	15	231	−4

Sales by wholesale textile houses in May showed an increase of 15 per cent on a year earlier, compared with an increase of 3 per cent in March and a decrease of 1 per cent in April.

The value of stocks at the end of May showed a decrease of 4 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Inquiries: These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP, tel. 01-580 2902.

Table 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks [1]
	May 1978	Jan-May 1978	May 1978
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	−13	−5	12
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	7	22	18
Women's underwear	19	−2	−22
Women's hose and children's socks	2	−2	−11
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	2	3	−14
Children's wear	−7	−22	−23
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	19	3	−5
Gloves	−12	−8	−37
Piece-goods and nets	41	−18	22
Household textiles	−1	−6	−20
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	26	18	8
Boots and shoes	8	−15	15
Total [2]	15	4	−4

[1] Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
[2] Values at cost.

Hosiery and other knitted goods: index of production in April

In the three months ended April 1978 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been the same as in the three months ended April 1977.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Hosiery and other knitted goods, including warp knitting

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	99
1973	103
1974	100
1975	96
1976	101
1977 p	101

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1976		
1st qtr	90	97
2nd	95	98
3rd	101	105
4th	118	105
1977		
1st qtr	94	101
2nd	94	96
3rd p	100	103
4th p	114	102
1978		
1st qtr p	95	103
1976		
January	85	101
February	94	99
March	91	91
April	92	101
May	98	99
June	96	95
July	93	107
August	97	105
September	113	102
October	133	107
November	126	103
December	96	106
1977		
January	92	107
February	96	101
March	94	95
April	91	99
May	96	97
June	95	93
July	93	107
August	93	100
September	114	103
October p	126	100
November p	119	97
December p	98	109
1978		
January p	84	98
February p	96	101
March p	89	94
April	96	100

p Provisional.

Cotton industry: production in May

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in January-May 1978 the amount of cloth woven was 8 per cent lower than in January-May 1977. Production of single yarn decreased by 13 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 18 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn [1]		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn [2]	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg				million m	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3		85.0	559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7		75.4	513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5		82.1	453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7		74.7	409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4		68.4	405.4	503.0
1976	106.9	76.1		69.4	374.5	492.9
1977	98.1	77.6		69.8	368.3	497.5
1977						
Jan	2.2	1.7		1.5	7.7	10.3
Feb	2.3	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.7
Mar [3]	2.2	1.8		1.6	7.9	10.7
Apr	1.7	1.4		1.2	6.3	8.8
May	2.3	1.9		1.6	7.9	11.1
June [3]	1.5	1.2		1.1	6.9	8.8
July	1.6	1.2		1.2	4.3	7.5
August [3]	1.9	1.5		1.4	7.6	9.5
Sep	1.5	1.2		1.2	6.3	9.0
Oct	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.9	10.5
Nov [3]	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.8	10.2
Dec	1.4	1.1		1.0	5.9	7.6
1978						
Jan	2.0	1.5		1.3	7.7	10.0
Feb	2.0	1.6		1.3	8.0	10.0
Mar [3]	1.6	1.2		1.1	6.8	8.2
Apr	2.0	1.6		1.3	8.2	9.4
May [3]	1.8	1.6		1.2	7.5	8.7

[1] Spun in cotton industry. [2] Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. [3] Average of five weeks.

Production of man-made fibres in May

In the three months ended April 1978 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted was estimated to have been 23 per cent more than in the three months ended January 1978. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in January-May 1978 was 1 per cent more than in January-May 1977, output of continuous filament decreased by 6 per cent and staple fibre increased by 6 per cent.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tonnes

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	553.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257.6	341.9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1974	627.6	271.0	356.6
1975	562.5	246.5	316.0
1976	618.4	270.7	347.7
1977	551.8	239.3	312.5
1976			
1st qtr	159.8	70.0	89.8
2nd	157.5	69.7	87.7
3rd	140.4	62.4	78.0
4th	160.7	68.6	92.1
1977			
1st qtr	154.9	67.2	87.7
2nd	150.8	63.9	86.8
3rd	131.0	55.2	75.8
4th	115.1	53.0	62.1
1977			
January	49.1	20.9	28.2
February	50.3	21.8	28.5
March	55.5	24.5	31.0
April	52.3	20.8	31.5
May	47.7	21.5	26.2
June	50.8	21.7	29.2
July	49.5	20.8	28.7
August	37.6	16.0	21.6
September	43.9	18.4	25.5
October	43.5	18.2	25.4
November	36.8	17.9	18.9
December	34.8	17.0	17.8
1978			
January	44.2	19.1	25.1
February	47.6	19.0	28.7
March	58.2	22.5	35.7
April	48.3	19.1	29.2
May	58.5	22.7	35.8

Source: Production stats: Man-made Fibres Producers Committee. Index of production: Department of Industry.

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968	87
1969	92
1970	100
1971	106
1972	107
1973	127
1974	111
1975	101
1976	112
1977	100

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1976		
1st qtr	116	115
2nd	115	112
3rd	104	110
4th	115	113
1977		
1st qtr	114	113
2nd	108	106
3rd	92	97
4th	84	83
1977		
January	106	111
February	118	113
March	118	114
April	111	107
May	103	103
June	112	106
July	100	105
August	80	91
September	94	94
October	90	87
November	86	82
December	78	81
1978		
January	94	99
February	111	105
March	119	115
April	105	102

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries in April

In the three months ended April 1978 deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been equal to figures in the preceding three months while net new orders were also unchanged. Orders-on-hand at the end of April 1978 were 3 per cent higher than the end-January 1978 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying tables).

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years. There have been several changes to the actual figures this month, due to a revision in the method of calculating the index numbers.
Inquiries: 01-212 0116.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974	145		115		114	
1975	142		118		115	
1976	138		118		114	
1977 p	139		124		121	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1976						
1st qtr	126	131	109	110	113	112
2nd	152	140	129	120	109	113
3rd	127	136	102	119	114	113
4th	138	135	131	121	120	117
1977						
1st qtr	145	150	127	130	122	124
2nd	154	141	123	116	115	120
3rd p	131	139	113	135	121	121
4th p	139	137	132	127	125	124
1978						
1st qtr	134	140	122	128	121	126

contd. in next column

1976						
Jan	129	133	94	110	102	116
Feb	128	135	115	113	116	111
Mar	126	131	117	109	119	110
Apr	135	132	131	122	108	112
May	154	137	153	125	114	122
Jun	152	140	103	113	106	105
Jul	139	138	97	126	111	113
Aug	129	135	83	111	102	113
Sep	127	136	127	119	128	114
Oct	134	141	153	121	135	115
Nov	141	139	144	121	125	118
Dec	138	135	95	121	101	118
1977						
Jan	142	146	112	131	107	121
Feb	139	146	126	124	129	122
Mar	145	150	140	129	129	119
Apr	153	149	133	124	115	122
May	161	143	136	105	116	118
Jun	154	141	101	122	113	124
Jul	139	138	110	142	122	123
Aug	132	138	95	128	108	119
Sep	131	139	133	124	133	118
Oct p	130	137	145	116	142	121
Nov p	136	135	136	115	125	119
Dec p	139	137	114	151	107	132
1978						
Jan p	134	138	103	121	107	120
Feb p	131	138	127	124	129	123
Mar p	134	140	135	136	126	128
Apr p	146	142	150	127	125	120

p Provisional.

Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries

May's cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries are given in the table. Attention is drawn to the footnotes: an explanation of the compilation of the indices was given in the introductory article in *Trade and Industry*, 3 February.
Inquiries: 01-215 3514.

Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries (MLH 383 and 367 respectively) 1970 = 100

	1977								1978			
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1 BOUGHT OUT FINISHED GOODS PURCHASED BY	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	259.1	259.2	261.7	261.9	264.0	267.6	272.2	273.1	275.5	277.2	280.3	285.5	287.4
Airframe sector	254.9	255.0	257.5	258.2	259.8	263.5	267.9	268.8	271.4	273.1	276.1	280.9	282.7
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	262.2	262.5	265.1	265.2	267.6	270.9	275.4	276.6	279.1	280.9	284.0	289.5	291.4
Aero-engine parts sector	256.6	257.3	260.3	262.2	263.8	267.5	270.7	272.5	276.2	277.9	280.5	284.6	286.2
Aircraft components sector	264.3	264.4	267.0	266.8	269.1	272.2	276.4	277.4	279.2	281.0	284.3	289.7	291.8
2 OTHER MATERIALS PURCHASED BY													p
Aerospace industry	310.2	309.9	313.5	315.2	318.3	319.8	317.3	317.1	316.6	316.9	319.5	323.0	325.0
Airframe sector	290.7	292.0	297.3	301.2	303.4	304.8	302.9	303.6	304.0	304.5	305.9	308.5	309.7
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	305.1	304.9	307.9	310.2	315.6	318.9	317.6	317.5	319.3	319.6	321.4	324.0	325.5
Aero-engine sector	328.8	327.6	330.3	330.5	333.8	335.2	332.2	331.3	330.0	330.4	334.3	338.4	341.1
Aircraft components sector	319.8	318.9	322.2	322.7	324.0	324.3	320.8	320.4	317.9	317.9	321.5	325.9	328.6
3 ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS BY	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	275.9	276.0	278.8	279.5	282.0	284.8	287.1	287.7	289.1	290.3	293.3	297.8	299.9
Airframe sector	263.1	263.5	266.6	268.1	269.8	273.0	275.9	275.8	278.9	280.3	283.0	287.2	288.9
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	277.6	277.8	280.5	281.3	284.8	288.2	290.5	291.3	293.5	294.8	297.5	301.8	303.7
Aero-engine parts sector	285.8	285.8	288.6	289.8	292.1	294.9	295.6	296.3	298.0	299.1	302.3	306.2	308.4
Aircraft components sector	297.0	296.5	299.5	299.7	301.5	302.9	302.5	302.7	302.0	302.7	306.3	310.9	313.5
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	256.5	257.1	259.6	260.8	262.1	265.2	268.2	268.2	270.5	272.0	275.2	278.6	280.5
4 SALARIES AND GENERAL EXPENSES	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	253.7	253.7	255.6	253.8	256.2	259.6	265.4	266.4	267.9	269.5	272.6	279.4	281.2
Airframe sector	252.0	251.8	253.6	251.6	254.2	257.7	264.0	265.1	266.5	268.4	271.5	278.3	280.2
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	259.3	259.3	261.1	259.5	261.9	265.1	270.6	271.6	273.1	274.7	277.6	284.0	285.8
Aero-engine parts sector	252.1	252.4	254.4	253.0	255.4	258.6	264.1	265.1	266.7	268.3	271.5	278.0	279.9
Aircraft components sector	248.5	248.4	250.2	248.3	250.7	254.1	260.1	261.1	262.4	264.2	267.3	274.0	275.8
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	234.1	233.6	235.4	233.0	235.5	239.0	245.5	246.5	247.5	249.3	252.3	259.0	260.9
5 HOURLY EARNINGS OF ADULT MANUAL WORKERS							p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	258.3	257.2	259.0	256.0	258.9	262.9	272.3	273.6	274.7	277.1	281.1	289.9	292.3
Radio, radar and electronic capital good industry	278.4	276.0	277.3	279.3	279.4	288.3	302.0	294.4	297.6	299.7	307.1	311.8	316.2
6 COMBINED COSTS	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	263.5	263.2	265.4	264.4	266.9	270.2	275.5	276.4	277.7	279.4	282.7	289.0	291.1
Airframe sector	257.4	257.2	259.5	258.5	260.9	264.4	270.2	271.2	272.8	274.6	277.8	284.1	286.1
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	265.9	265.7	267.8	266.8	269.8	273.2	278.5	279.5	281.1	282.8	285.9	292.1	294.1
Aero-engine parts sector	264.1	263.9	266.0	264.9	267.4	270.8	276.1	277.1	278.6	280.3	283.7	290.2	292.4
Aircraft components sector	266.4	265.9	268.0	266.4	268.8	271.8	277.0	277.8	278.4	280.1	283.6	290.4	292.6
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	251.8	251.6	253.0	253.5	255.1	259.3	265.4	264.5	266.5	268.2	272.0	276.8	279.2

Definitive information on earnings for both manual and administrative, technical and clerical (ATC) workers is available only for certain months of the year – manual earnings information is available for MLH 383 for April and October but for MLH 367 in respect of October only; ATC salaries information for both industries is available for April of each year. The indices of combined costs are based on the assumption of no change in productivity.

Revisions to series brought about as a result of ATC salaries information becoming available will be shown in the article to be published on 8 December and will affect indices from May last year up to and including those of August.

Revisions to series incorporated as a result of manual earnings information from the October survey are published in the April article and these affect series from the preceding November up to and including December. The results obtained from the April aerospace survey will affect indices from last November up to and including June and will be shown in the article published on 6 October.

The cost index tables previously D1-D5 and D7 have now been redesignated sections 1 to 6 in the table.

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Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 28 July 1978.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Movietone News 2564	BR/E 39588/30/7/83	8	27 July	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
Once Upon A Virgin	EC/39686/30/7/83	48	23 July	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd	Impex Films and Film ABC, Paris
Despair	EC/39691/30/7/83	119	28 July	Gala Film Distributors Ltd	Bavaria Atelier GmbH, Germany
FOREIGN					
Sasquatch	F 39687	100	27 July	GTO Films (Distributions) Ltd	Ronald D. Olson, Oregon
Caught With Their Pants Down	F39688	85	27 July	Supreme Film Distributors Ltd	Gordon Films Inc, New York
The Last Waltz	F 39689	116	27 July	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Last Waltz Productions, California
Manitou	F 39690	105	27 July	Enterprise Pictures Ltd	Gordy Productions, California
Don't Cry For Me Little Mother	F 39692	99	28 July	Gala Film Distributors Ltd	Jandran Film, Yugoslavia

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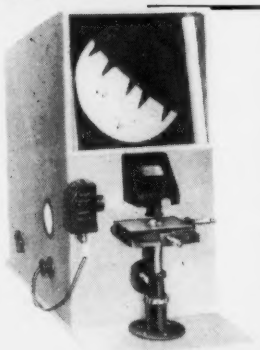

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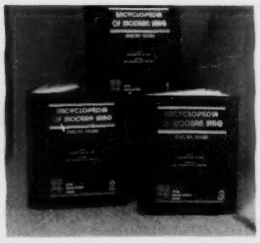

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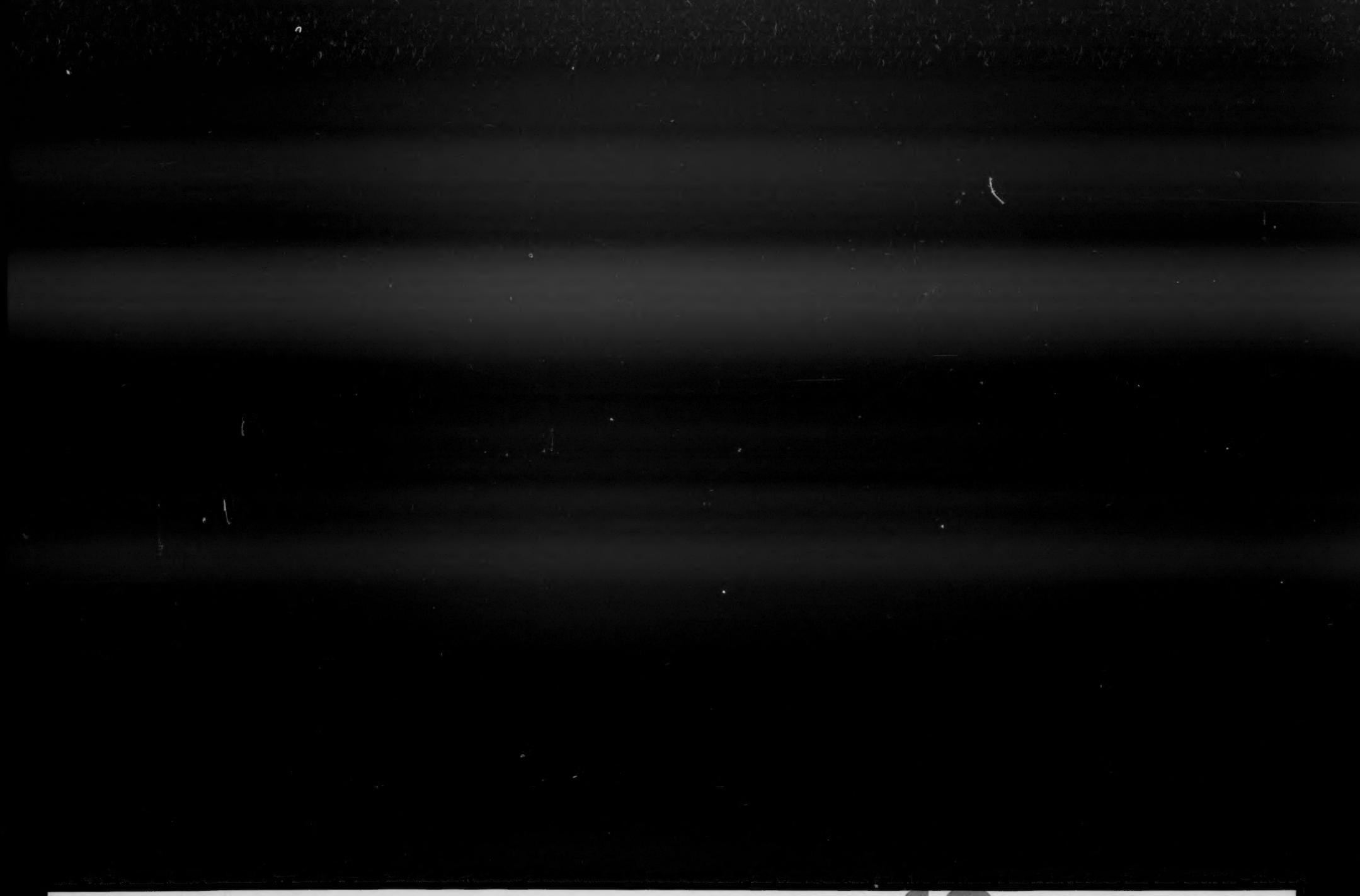
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